

Reworking Biden plan

Negotiators curtail proposals on taxes, domestic programs. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Stamford mayoral debate

Valentine, Simmons take their bitter battle face to face. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

UConn under the lights

Huskies set for Friday night home matchup with Middle Tennessee. **SPORTS, PAGE 1**

Mild and breezy

Partly sunny, 5-10 mph breeze; high of 70. **SPORTS, PAGE 6**

Hartford Courant

VOLUME CLXXXV **COURANT.COM** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021

Hartford man arrested in death of 21-year-old

Joshua White, accused of killing Brian Oliver in July, busted outside local strip club with ‘ghost gun’ in his pocket

By **Zach Murdock**
Hartford Courant

A Hartford man wanted in connection with the death of 21-year-old Brian Oliver this summer was captured by police outside a local strip club with a loaded, untraceable “ghost gun” in his pocket, court records show.

The victim, Oliver, is one of four young men killed this summer who were part of the same tight knit group of family and close friends in the Upper Albany neighborhood but whose shootings were apparently unrelated, police records show.

After a monthslong investigation, police charged Joshua White, 21, with murder,

conspiracy to commit murder and a series of weapons offenses. He appeared Thursday morning in a Hartford courtroom in front of a dozen members of Oliver’s family.

An aspiring rapper, Oliver was gunned down early the morning of July 19 outside an Irving Street home after an argument and fight during a party at a North End home a few blocks away, according to court records released Thursday.

Oliver’s mother Sally Oliver and extended family, adorned in shirts and buttons memorializing him, remembered him as a bright young man focused on his music. They are now turning their focus to the lengthy prosecution process and met with court officials outside the courtroom where White was

arraigned Thursday.

“Losing ain’t an option,” Sally Oliver said, invoking one of her son’s songs.

Police initially responded to a report of shots fired just before 2 a.m. July 19 and found shell casing of two calibers on Irving Street but could not locate a victim, records show. The next morning, a passerby reported to police that a man’s body was in the grass near the same scene, with a blood trail connecting both spots.

Footage collected from several nearby city and private security cameras showed Oliver walking and talking with several people just before walking down Irving Street, off

Turn to Arrest, Page 2



The family of Brian Oliver wore memorabilia to honor him Thursday in Superior Court in Hartford. **ZACH MURDOCK/HARTFORD COURANT**



Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julio Concepcion, from left, Shannon Mumley and Amy Albert prepare to host a tour of vacant retail and restaurant storefronts in downtown Hartford. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Dressing up downtown

With vacant storefronts marring the Hartford streetscape, chamber of commerce officials launch pitch to lure new tenants downtown

By **Seamus McAvoy**
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — In a bid to lure prospective retail and restaurant businesses into the city’s downtown storefronts, many of which remain vacant, the Hartford Chamber of Commerce hosted an open house-style event to give owners a closer look.

About 30 owners convened Thursday evening at the top of Hartford’s Pratt Street — a charming, brick-paved stretch just east of the XL Center that connects Main and Trumbull Streets — for self-guided tours of 14 vacant storefronts and office spaces in the nearby area.

“It’s something the chamber should do anyway, but I think the pandemic really forced our hands because of the increase in some of the vacant properties left behind by some of the businesses that were forced to close,” said Julio Concepcion, the camber’s executive director.

About 35 properties for retail and restaurants remain unleased in Hartford’s downtown area, which includes Pratt, Main, Temple, Asylum, Trumbull, Union and Peal streets, according to data provided by the Hartford Chamber of Commerce. Concepcion added that some of those proper-

Turn to Downtown, Page 3

House votes Bannon in contempt

Justice Department to decide if Trump ally gets prosecuted

By **Mary Clare Jalonick**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House voted Thursday to hold Steve Bannon, a long-time ally and aide to former President Donald Trump, in contempt of Congress for defying a subpoena from the committee investigating the violent Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection.

In a rare show of bipartisanship, the committee’s Democratic chairman, Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, led the floor debate along with Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, one of two Republicans on the panel. The vote was 229-202 with all but nine GOP lawmakers who voted saying “no.”

The House vote sends the matter to the U.S. attorney’s office in Washington, where it will be up to prosecutors in that office to decide whether to present the case to a grand jury for possible criminal charges. It’s still uncertain whether they will pursue the case — Attorney General Merrick Garland would only say at a House hearing Thursday that they plan to “make a decision consistent with the principles of prosecution.”

The partisan split over Bannon’s subpoena — and over the committee’s investigation in general — is emblematic of the raw tensions that still grip Congress nine months after the Capitol attack. Democrats have vowed to comprehensively probe the assault in which hundreds of Trump’s supporters battered their way past police, injured dozens of officers and interrupted the electoral count certifying President Joe Biden’s victory.

Lawmakers on the investigating committee say they will move swiftly and forcefully to punish anyone who won’t cooperate with the probe.

“We will not allow anyone to derail our

Turn to Bannon, Page 3

DiMassa to resign after arrest in relief fund misuse probe



State Rep. Michael DiMassa leaves the U.S. Courthouse on Wednesday after he was arrested by the FBI in a probe into the misuse of COVID-19 relief funds. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

By **Christopher Keating and Edmund H. Mahony**
Hartford Courant

State Rep. Michael DiMassa, accused of stealing more than \$600,000 in federal COVID-19 relief money by billing the city of West Haven for pandemic related consulting services that federal officials said he never performed, is expected to resign his seat in the legislature as early as Friday, House Speaker Matthew Ritter said.

“The secretary of the state tells us the letter is coming tomorrow,” Ritter said late Thursday. Lawmakers intending to resign must notify the secretary of the state in writing.

DiMassa also resigned his post as an aide to the West Haven City Council on Thursday, according to Ritter. DiMassa could not be reached immediately for comment.

Immediately following his arrest Wednesday, DiMassa, a Democrat, was stripped of

all committee and leadership assignments by Ritter and House majority leader Jason Rojas.

“Elected officials are rightly held to a high standard of conduct and trust,” Ritter and Rojas said in a joint statement. “Even the slightest hint of wrongdoing bruises that trust.”

DiMassa, 30, a West Haven Democrat who was charged with fraud, was arrested early Wednesday by FBI agents and was presented in U.S. District Court in New Haven

shortly before noon. He was released on a \$250,000 bond.

Federal prosecutors and FBI agents said that a portion of the alleged thefts appear to correspond with DiMassa’s purchase of tens of thousands of dollars in gambling chips at the Mohegan Sun casino. At the time, he was one of three city officials designated to oversee emergency pandemic spending.

DiMassa’s name surfaced last week amid reports that

Turn to DiMassa, Page 3

Absentee voting rules eased again

Every Connecticut voter will again be able to vote by absentee ballot next month because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. **Connecticut, Page 1**

Opinion.....**News 10**
Obits**News 12**
Lottery**News 2**
Classified.....**News 11**

Puzzles**Connecticut 7, 9**
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FROM PAGE ONE

Arrest

from Page 1

camera, when audio on one camera captured the sound of almost a dozen gunshots, records show.

Investigators soon learned Oliver was involved in a fistfight and was accused of breaking several windows of a Garden Street apartment during a party hours before his death, but also found out he had an ongoing drama with several other people stemming from a separate fight at another party several weeks earlier, records show. Several of the people aware of that earlier fight, including White, were among those Oliver ran into after leaving the fight on Garden Street, the security camera video revealed.

Investigators identified White and obtained an arrest warrant, but they could not locate him this summer.

Detectives learned on Oct. 7, however, that White was expected to visit the Mynx Cabaret strip club in the North Meadows and set up there ahead of time to take him into custody, a second police report released Thursday details. Officers converged on the car when White arrived and found he was carrying an untraceable ghost gun in the front pocket of his sweatshirt loaded with an extended magazine and one round in the chamber, the report said.

White was arrested and charged that night with four weapons offenses and once in custody was served with the outstanding warrant charging him with murder, conspiracy to commit murder and carrying a pistol without a permit. He remains in custody this week in lieu of a total \$2.25 million bond.

Just two weeks after Oliver's murder, his close friend Zayon Collier was gunned down in his Blue Hills Avenue apartment on Aug. 4, hours before Oliver's funeral.

Friends and family have described a heart-wrenching day, finishing Oliver's



Zayon Collier, 25, was shot and killed Aug. 4 inside his Blue Hills Avenue apartment just hours before he was supposed to serve as a pallbearer in the funeral for his slain friend, 21-year-old Brian Oliver. COURANT FILE PHOTO

funeral services and heading straight to an impromptu vigil outside Collier's apartment building, still clad in the custom shirts they made to memorialize Oliver. Collier was supposed to serve as a pallbearer at the funeral.

Last week, Hartford police charged 22-year-old Mark Outlaw with accessory to murder and conspiracy to commit murder in connection with the fatal shooting of the 25-year-old Collier.

Records show the motives for the two friends' shootings do not appear to be connected, and investigations into both are ongoing, but police officials declined to release further information about them Thursday.

The two were among four friends gunned down in a span of two months this summer.

Oliver and Collier's close friends already were reeling from the murder of 22-year-old Trelaque Ward, the brother of one of their friends, in June when Ward

was attacked and killed during an apparent robbery. Aubrey Perry, 35, is accused of opening fire on Ward and was wounded when Ward returned fire but was arrested at the hospital and charged with murder. He has pleaded not guilty and remains in custody in lieu of a \$1.25 million bond.

Violence impacted the group again a few days after Collier's death when members of his extended family got into a fight after an evening planning his funeral on Aug. 9, and 29-year-old Troy Reid was shot and killed. Reid's brother-in-law, 35-year-old Tanoah Jones, admitted to police he shot Reid during an argument over whether Reid may have been involved in Collier's death and was charged with murder.

Court records indicate the four shootings weren't directly tied together, but their victims were and the deaths have devastated the close group, family said.

Hartford has recorded



The family of Brian Oliver, 21, wore memorabilia Thursday to honor him to Superior Court in Hartford. ZACH MURDOCK/HARTFORD COURANT

29 murders so far in 2021, a sharp increase that has put the capital city on pace to record one of its deadliest years in decades. The rise

is not isolated to Hartford, however, and tracks closely with similar increases recorded in cities large and small across the coun-

try since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

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LOTTERY

Thursday, Oct. 21

PLAY3 DAY 8 7 3 WB: 3
PLAY4 DAY 8 1 2 5 WB: 1

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT 1 5 2 WB: 3
PLAY4 NIGHT 4 4 8 3 WB: 0

CASH 5

5 7 11 28 33

LUCKY FOR LIFE

6 20 21 31 42 LB: 3

POWERBALL

7 29 36 41 43 PB: 5 PP: 2

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Tonight's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$108 million
Saturday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$86 million

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FROM PAGE ONE

Convicted child rapist who claimed 100 victims dies at 73



Convicted child rapist Wayne Chapman appears for his arraignment in June 2018 in Ayer, Massachusetts. CHRIS CHRISTO/AP

Associated Press

Wayne Chapman, a child rapist from Massachusetts who said he sexually assaulted as many as 100 victims, has died at a Connecticut nursing home, according to lawyers in the cases. He was 73. Chapman died of natural causes Wednesday evening, his Boston lawyer, Eric Tennen, said. He was living at a nursing home in Rocky Hill, just south of Hartford, according to Connecticut's sex offender registry.

Chapman was convicted in 1977 of luring young boys into the woods by pretending he was searching for his missing dog and sexually assaulting them, Massachusetts court records say. A court found Chapman had at least 50 victims, and Chapman had said he raped as many as 100 children, said Wendy Murphy, an attorney for some of the victims. His prison sentence ended in 2004, but Massachusetts officials civilly committed him for another 15 years under a state law on people

deemed "sexually dangerous." He was released from state custody in 2019, after Massachusetts' highest court ruled he could no longer remain committed because mental health professionals determined he was not sexually dangerous. His release outraged his victims, whose lawyers unsuccessfully tried to keep him committed. Authorities said Chapman also was a person of interest in the 1976 disappearance of 10-year-old Andy Puglisi, of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Melanie McLaughlin, a childhood friend of Puglisi, told the Boston Herald that she was sad and angry Thursday. "Hopefully, there's more justice on the other side than there was here," McLaughlin said. Tennen, Chapman's lawyer, said Chapman had been bedridden since his release and posed no danger to the public. "I've never defended what he did," he said. "He committed horrible acts and caused pain that has reverberated for decades."

Bannon

from Page 1

work, because our work is too important," Thompson said. Republicans call it a "witch hunt," say it is a waste of time and argue that Congress should be focusing on more important matters. Indiana Rep. Jim Banks, leading the GOP opposition on the floor, called the probe an "illicit criminal investigation into American citizens" and said Bannon is a "Democrat party boogeyman." Cheney and Illinois Rep. Adam Kinzinger are the only two Republicans on the Jan. 6 panel, and both have openly criticized Trump and his role in fomenting the insurrection while the majority of House Republicans have remained silent in the face of Trump's falsehoods about massive fraud in the election. Trump's claims were rejected by election officials, courts across the country and by his own attorney general. The Jan. 6 committee voted 9-0 Tuesday to recommend the contempt charges after Bannon missed a scheduled interview with the panel last week, citing a letter from Trump's lawyer that directed him not to answer questions. The committee noted that Bannon did not work at the White House at the time of the attack, and that he not only spoke with Trump before it but also promoted the

protests on his podcast and predicted there would be unrest. On Jan. 5, Bannon said that "all hell is going to break loose." Lawmakers on the panel said Bannon was alone in completely defying its subpoena, while more than a dozen other subpoenaed witnesses were at least negotiating with them. Even if the Justice Department does decide to prosecute, the case could take years to play out — potentially pushing past the 2022 election when Republicans could win control of the House and end the investigation. There's still considerable uncertainty about whether the department will pursue the charges, despite Democratic demands for action. It's a decision that will determine not only the effectiveness of the House investigation but also the strength of Congress' power to call witnesses and demand information. If the Justice Department doesn't prosecute, the House has other options, including a civil lawsuit. That could also take years but would force Bannon and any other witnesses to defend themselves in court. Another option would be for Congress to try to imprison defiant witnesses — an unlikely, if not outlandish, scenario. Called "inherent contempt," the process was used in the country's early years but hasn't been employed in almost a century.

DiMassa

from Page 1

the FBI, as well as the administration of West Haven Mayor Nancy Rossi, also a Democrat, were looking into what the mayor called a number of large and apparently irregular expenditures from about \$1.2 million in federal funds. "Over the last two weeks, I have personally reviewed many of West Haven's federal CARES Act expenditures," Rossi said. "I have come across several large expenditures that have caused me great concern. Some of the expenditures appear improper and may be potentially fraudulent." State Senate Republican leaders called on Gov. Ned Lamont to initiate and oversee a statewide audit of all COVID-19 funds. Senate Republican leader Kevin Kelly of Stratford and deputy leader Paul Formica said that all 169 cities and towns should be audited to restore public confidence that the federal money is being used for proper expenses. DiMassa is accused of defrauding West Haven with false billings he submitted through the

Compass Investment Group, a consulting firm he registered with John Bernardo, also of West Haven. Bernardo is not identified in an FBI affidavit that details the charges against DiMassa. One example of an alleged fraud detailed in the affidavit involves a May 5 payment by the West Haven "COVID-19 Grant Department" for what is described in the payment voucher as services to the West Haven Health Department for "COVID-19 Legal+ Lobbying+ Site work for COVID-19 Clinic." According to the affidavit, the invoice listed charges that included "305 hours of Consulting Service-Legislative Review Executive Orders — COVID-19, 483 hours of Consulting Service-Support Staff Services, 305 hours of Monitors/Security Site (April 2021-May 2021), and 102 hours of Consulting Service-Lobbying Service-COVID-19 Federal." The amount billed to the city of West Haven was \$85,595. West Haven issued a check for that amount the following day, May 6, to Compass Investment Group LLC.



The space at 73 Pratt Street is one of the vacant properties being shown during a Chamber of Commerce tour of vacant retail and restaurant storefronts that aims to entice businesses to relocate. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

Downtown

from Page 1

ties are somewhere along in the leasing process, and the list can fluctuate daily. Concepcion said the chamber has seen an increase in the concentration of empty storefronts clustered next to one another, an eyesore for downtown pedestrians. The current leasable properties are a mix of storefronts vacated within the last 18 months and those which have been empty since before the pandemic. "That's something we're trying to combat and mitigate," Concepcion said. "We're trying to fill in these spaces that cause a huge gap when it comes to walkability in our city."

'A lot of potential'

Along Pratt Street, a quaint, brick-lined walkway nestled between 19th century facades, about a dozen people sit on storefront steps or at small tables set up along the closed-off road. Professional Barber Shop has its door propped open, letting in the unusually warm October air. Inside 54 Pratt St., Walden St. Juste looks around the nearly 4,300-square-foot property and imagines how it might fit as the next location of his business. St. Juste opened Bro's Dough Pizzeria, a counter service-style pizza spot, in August 2020 on New Britain Avenue and is now looking to expand. "We've been getting a lot of great feedback, in and out of the city," he said. St. Juste, 34, is originally from Haiti and moved to Hartford in 1990. He remembers growing up around Pratt and Asylum streets, and believes in its future. "I just see a lot of potential," St. Juste said. Next door, Jermaine Frazer-Phillips eyes a two-floor property for his first foray into brick-and-mortar operations. He's the owner of Big Up Brew, an online coffee bean company that locally roasts beans sourced from seven countries, and hopes to open a cafe and bar. Frazer-Phillips said the name draws from the phrase "big up yourself," an homage to his family's Jamaican roots. He started the company in April, during heart of the pandemic, and has taken to calling himself a "COVID-preneur." Inspired by his uncle, who Frazer-Phillips said joined the Rastafari movement and went on to work with bands like The Clash and UB40, he too wanted to



The space at 44 Pratt Street is one of the vacant properties being shown during a Chamber of Commerce tour.

do something bold. "How do we honor that and go against the grain?" Frazer-Phillips said. Christian Burnes stands on the sidewalk, wafting in the pungent smoke emitted by three men chatting and smoking cigars outside The Tobacco Shop. He said he's encouraged by what he views as a gradual return of downtown foot traffic. In a year's time, he said, he hopes to see 1,000 more people buzzing around filled storefronts. "We're still optimistic. We need to remain optimistic," said Burnes, the director of commercial real estate at Northland Investment Corporation, one of the developers. "It's a series of small steps." Three of the properties, 55 Pratt St., 73 Pratt St. and 95 Pratt St., are at least partially owned by Brooklyn-based Shelbourne Global Solutions LLC. Shelbourne is a partner in a \$50 million project to redevelop the south side of Pratt Street to include 200 apartments, entertainment space and shops. Shelbourne developers have said they aim to cultivate a "vintage hipster" vibe in the area with a focus on attracting young people to "one of the most Instagrammable spots in the state." Retail Renaissance? One property on display Thursday won't be vacant for long. At 44 Pratt St., there will soon open Rundown Marketplace, a sneaker store founded by Christian Scott, 26, originally from Stamford. Rundown's first location opened in Bridgeport in September 2020.

The Hartford location will be a "second hub for all that we offer," according to a post on Rundown's Instagram page. The 3,200-square-foot property will be more than twice the size of the Bridgeport location. "Given our growth and the overwhelming support we have received within the last year, it became clear to us early on that a second location in Connecticut wasn't just a desire but a necessity," the post said. Scott is aiming for a grand opening in late November or early December, he wrote in an email. Contrary to the dim projections for the future of retail spurred by online shopping and the pandemic, Rundown is an example of what Concepcion notes as an increase in interest from businesses in expanding or shifting their retail presence into Hartford's downtown. Retailers nationally are increasingly turning away from shopping malls as a default location amid declining foot traffic. Dick's Sporting Goods, for example, announced in April that it would be closing its location at the Buckland Hills shopping mall in Manchester in favor of a location in a retail plaza in town. Concepcion thinks the draw of event spaces in downtown Hartford offer retailers an attractive alternative to shopping malls. "Online, Amazon, can't replicate events at the Hartford Stage, the Bushnell, the XL Center," he said. "These retailers will get a natural bump from the foot traffic that is being caused by some of these large events that cities hold."

FBI: Remains found in Fla. ID'd as Laundrie

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — The FBI on Thursday identified human remains found in a Florida nature preserve as those of Brian Laundrie, a person of interest in the death of girlfriend Gabby Petito while the couple was on a cross-country road trip. The remains, a backpack and notebook believed to belong to Laundrie were discovered Wednesday in a Florida wilderness park,

according to the FBI. The area where they were found had been under water during earlier searches. The FBI's Denver office said in a news release that a comparison of dental records confirmed that the remains were Laundrie. The discovery of the remains concluded a massive search involving federal, state and local law enforcement that began shortly after Laundrie disappeared Sept. 14, two weeks after the 23-year-

old returned alone to his parents' home in North Port, Florida. Petito's family reported her missing Sept. 11, launching a search that garnered worldwide media attention and focused largely on the Carlton Reserve wilderness park near the Laundrie home. The body of Petito, 22, was found Sept. 19 on the edge of Wyoming's Grand Teton National Park, which the couple had visited. The coroner there concluded she

died of strangulation and her body had been where it was found for three or four weeks. The couple was stopped Aug. 12 by police in Moab, Utah, after they had a physical altercation, but no charges were filed. Laundrie returned home alone Sept. 1 in the Ford van the couple took on their trip. The focus on Petito's case has led to renewed calls for people to pay greater attention to cases involving missing people of color.



Supporters of Gabby Petito hold up photos of her after a news conference Wednesday in North Port, Fla. CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Biden, Dems recalibrating agenda

Negotiators curtail proposals on taxes, domestic programs

By Lisa Mascaro, Darlene Superville and Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House and Democrats are hurriedly reworking key aspects of President Joe Biden’s \$2 trillion domestic policy plan, trimming the social services and climate change programs and rethinking new taxes on corporations and the wealthy to pay for a scaled-back package.

The changes come as Biden more forcefully appeals to the American public, including in a televised town hall Thursday evening, for what he says are the middle-class values at the heart of his proposal. As long-sought programs are adjusted or eliminated, Democratic leaders are showing great deference to Biden’s preferences to swiftly wrap up talks and reach a deal in the narrowly held Congress.

Even a new White House idea abandoning plans for reversing the Trump-era tax rates in favor of an approach that would involve taxing the investment incomes of billionaires to help finance the deal appears acceptable to top Democrats. The leadership is racing to finish negotiations, possibly by week’s end.

“We have a goal. We have a timetable. We have milestones, and we’ve met them all,” said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who predicted on Thursday, “It will pass soon.”

Talks between the White



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said, “We have milestones, and we’ve met them all.” STEFANI REYNOLDS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

House and Democratic leaders are trying to reduce what had been a \$3.5 trillion package to about \$2 trillion, in what would be an unprecedented federal effort to expand social services for millions and address the rising threat of climate change.

With stark Republican opposition and no Democratic votes to spare, Biden must keep all lawmakers in his party — centrists and progressives — aligned.

An abrupt change of course came late Wednesday when the White House floated new ways to pay for parts of the proposal by shelving a long-planned increase in corporate and

top income tax rates but adding others, including a tax on the investment gains of the very richest Americans.

Biden faces resistance from key holdouts, in particular Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who has not been on board with her party’s plan to undo President Donald Trump’s tax breaks for big corporations or individuals earning more than \$400,000 a year.

The newly proposed tax provisions, though, are likely to sour progressives and even some moderate Democrats who have long campaigned on scrapping the Republican-backed 2017 tax cuts that many believe

unduly reward the wealthy and cost the government untold sums in lost revenue at a time of gaping income inequality. Many are furious that perhaps a lone senator could stymie that goal.

The corporate tax rate is 21%. Democrats want to raise it to 26.5% for companies earning more than \$5 million a year. The top individual income tax rate would go from 37% to 39.6% for those earning more than \$400,000, or \$450,000 for married couples.

Under the changes being floated the corporate rate would not change.

But the revisions would not be all positive for big companies and the wealthy.

The White House is reviving the idea of a minimum corporate tax rate, similar to the 15% rate Biden had proposed this year. That’s even for companies that say they had no taxable income — a frequent target of Biden, who complains they pay “zero” in taxes.

The new tax on the wealthiest individuals would be modeled on legislation from Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. He has proposed taxing stock gains of people with more than \$1 billion in assets — fewer than 1,000 Americans.

Sinema has not publicly stated her position. Her

office did not respond to a request for comment.

Another key Democrat, conservative Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, has said he prefers a 25% corporate rate, but his resistance to the bill lies chiefly in other areas such as climate change and social services.

On a call with the administration and the White House, Wyden said he “stressed the importance of putting an end to America’s two tax codes, and finally showing working people in this country that the wealthiest Americans are going to pay taxes just like they do.”

Overall, the emerging package, while slimmer than the original, would represent the most substantial overhaul of the federal balance sheets in at least a generation.

Biden and his party are trying to shore up middle-class households, tackle climate change and stem the trend toward rising income inequality.

In the mix are at least \$500 billion to battle climate change, \$350 billion for child care subsidies and free prekindergarten, a new federal program for at least four weeks of paid family leave, a one-year extension of the \$300 monthly child tax credit put in place during the COVID-19 crisis, and money for health care provided through the Affordable Care Act and Medicare.

Likely to be eliminated or shaved back are plans for tuition-free community college, a path to permanent legal status for certain immigrants in the United States and a clean energy plan that was the centerpiece of Biden’s strategy for fighting climate change.

Climate change seen as national security threat

Biden reports show warming will spark strife, spur migration

By Christopher Flavelle, Julian E. Barnes and Eileen Sullivan
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Worsening conflict within and between nations. Increased dislocation and migration as people flee climate-fueled instability. Heightened military tension and uncertainty.

The Biden administration released several reports Thursday on climate change and national security, laying out in stark terms the ways in which the warming world is beginning to pose significant challenges to stability worldwide.

The documents, issued by the departments of Homeland Security and Defense as well as the National Security Council and director of national intelligence, form the government’s most thorough assessment yet of these and other challenges, as well as how it will address them.

The timing of the release seems intended to give President Joe Biden something to demonstrate that his government is acting on climate change as he prepares to attend a U.N.

climate conference next week in Glasgow, Scotland.

The reports “reinforce the president’s commitment to evidence-based decisions guided by the best available science and data,” the White House said Thursday, and “will serve as a foundation for our critical work on climate and security moving forward.”

Among the documents was a National Intelligence Estimate, which is meant to collect and distill the views of the country’s intelligence agencies about particular threats. The report said that risks to American national security will grow in the years to come. After 2030, key countries will face growing risks of instability and need for humanitarian assistance, the report said.

The document makes three judgments: Global tensions will rise as countries argue about how to hasten reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; climate change will exacerbate cross-border flashpoints and amplify strategic competition in the Arctic; and the effects of climate change will be felt most acutely in developing countries that are least equipped to adapt.

When it comes to countries around the world meeting the commitment made

at the 2015 climate conference in Paris to keep the rise in global temperatures to less than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit), the intelligence report said the odds were not good.

“Given current government policies and trends in technology development, we judge that collectively countries are unlikely to meet the Paris goals,” the report said.

The Pentagon also released a report that looked at how it would incorporate climate-related threats into its planning. That report said the military would begin to spend a significant portion of its next budget on climate analysis in its national security exercises.

“The Department intends to prioritize funding DOD Components in support of exercises, war games, analyses, and studies of climate change impacts on DOD missions, operations, and global stability,” according to its report. “In coordination with allies and partners, DOD will work to prevent, mitigate, account for, and respond to defense and security risks associated with climate change.”

The country is already seeing the effects of climate change on migration, with destructive hurricanes driv-



Icebergs that calved from a glacier float in Portage Lake near Anchorage, Alaska. Climate change is seen as a driver behind the breakage. RUTH FREMSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2019

ing migrants to leave their homes in Central America and flee to the U.S. through Mexico. This has overwhelmed border officials at times since 2014.

The National Security Council released its own report Thursday, looking at how climate change is already pushing people around the world to migrate, both within countries and between them. The report notes one forecast suggesting that climate change could lead to almost 3% of the populations of Latin

America, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa moving within their countries by 2050 — more than 143 million people.

That movement wouldn’t solely be the result of climate change, but rather the interaction of climate change with other challenges, like conflict, it said.

While the report focuses on climate migration overseas, it notes some Americans are already moving because of the effects of climate change as well.

Teevrat Garg, an econom-

ics professor at the University of California, San Diego, who specializes in climate migration, welcomed the administration’s attention to the issue. But he said the report could have addressed the deeper question of what the United States and other developed countries owe to climate migrants.

“Much of the carbon emissions driving climate change have come from rich nations but the consequences are being borne disproportionately by the poor,” Garg said.



Protesters call for the release of the 17 missionaries this week near the group’s headquarters in Haiti. JOSEPH ODELYN/AP

Haiti gang leader threatens to kill missionaries

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The leader of the 400 Mawozo gang that police say is holding 17 members of a kidnapped missionary group is seen in a video released Thursday saying he will kill them if he doesn’t get what he’s demanding.

“I swear by thunder that if I don’t get what I’m asking for, I will put a bullet in the heads of these Americans,” Wilson Joseph said in the video posted on social

media.

He also threatened Prime Minister Ariel Henry and the chief of Haiti’s National Police, Leon Charles, as he spoke in front of open coffins that apparently held several members of his gang who were recently killed.

“You guys make me cry. I cry water. But I’m going to make you guys cry blood,” he said.

Earlier this week, authorities said the gang demanded \$1 million per person, although it wasn’t clear

whether that included the five children in the group. Sixteen Americans and one Canadian were abducted, along with their Haitian driver.

The missionaries are with Ohio-based Christian Aid Ministries. A spokesman for the religious group said the families of those who’d been kidnapped are from Amish, Mennonite and other conservative Anabaptist communities in Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and

Ontario, Canada.

The same day the missionaries were kidnapped, a gang also abducted a Haiti professor, according to a statement that Haiti’s ombudsman-like Office of Citizen Protection issued Tuesday. It also noted that a Haitian pastor abducted this month has not been released despite a ransom being paid.

“The criminals ... operate with complete impunity, attacking all members of society,” the organization said.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccine boosters for millions

From news services

WASHINGTON — Millions more Americans can get a COVID-19 booster and choose a different company's vaccine for that next shot, federal health officials said Thursday.

Certain people who received Pfizer vaccinations months ago already are eligible for a booster and now the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says specific Moderna and Johnson & Johnson recipients qualify too. And in a bigger change, the agency is allowing the flexibility of "mixing and matching" that extra dose regardless of which type people received first.

The Food and Drug Administration had already authorized such an expansion of the nation's booster campaign Wednesday, and it was also endorsed Thursday by a CDC advisory panel.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky had the final word on who gets the extra doses.

"These past 20 months have taught us many things, but mostly to have humility," she told the panel. "We are constantly learning about this virus, growing the evidence base and accumulating more data."

There still are restrictions on who qualifies and when for a booster.

Starting six months past their last Pfizer vaccination, people are urged to get a booster if they're 65 or older, nursing home residents, or at least 50 and at increased risk of severe disease because of health problems. Boosters also were allowed, but not urged, for adults of any age at increased risk of infection because of health problems or their jobs or living conditions. That includes health care workers, teachers and people in jails or homeless shelters.

The CDC panel backed the same qualifications for Moderna recipients to get a booster.

As for recipients of the single-shot J&J vaccine, a COVID-19 booster is recommended for everyone at least two months after their vaccination.

The panel didn't explicitly recommend anyone get a different brand than they started with but left open the option — saying only that a booster of some sort was recommended.

Salmonella outbreak: A salmonella outbreak tied to onions has sickened more than 650 people in 37 states, U.S. health officials said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said at least 129 people have been hospitalized. No one has died. Nearly all of the illnesses were reported in August and September, and the largest numbers of cases were in Texas and Oklahoma.

The outbreak has been traced to whole red, white and yellow onions imported from Chihuahua, Mexico, and distributed throughout the United States by ProSource Inc., the CDC said this week.

Consumers are advised not to buy or eat whole fresh red, white or yellow onions imported from Chihuahua and distributed by ProSource, and to throw out any whole red, white or yellow onions that do not have a sticker or packaging.

India vaccinations: India celebrated giving its billionth COVID-19 vaccine dose Thursday, a hopeful milestone for the South Asian country where the delta variant fueled a crushing surge earlier this year and missteps initially held back its inoculation campaign.



Big price for 'Big John': Auction officer Violette Stcherbatcheff gestures next to the world's biggest triceratops skeleton — known as "Big John" after the owner of the land where it was found — Thursday in Paris. The skeleton, estimated to be more than 66 million years old, was found in 2014 in South Dakota. A private collector bought it Thursday for \$7.7 million. **FRANCOIS MORI/AP**

About half of India's nearly 1.4 billion people have received at least one dose while around 20% are fully immunized, according to Our World in Data. Experts warn that India must speed up the delivery of second shots in order to ensure the outbreak doesn't flare again.

The country widened the gap between shots from 12 to 16 weeks in order to administer more first doses at a time when supply was limited and infections were surging. But it created a lag in getting people fully immunized.

Russia outbreak: Restaurants, movie theaters and many retail stores in Moscow will be closed for 11 days starting Oct. 28, along with other new restrictions, officials said Thursday, as Russia recorded the highest numbers of coronavirus infections and deaths since the pandemic began.

The government coronavirus task force reported 36,339 new infections and 1,036 deaths in the past 24 hours. That brought Russia's

death toll to 227,389, by far the highest in Europe.

President Vladimir Putin has voiced consternation about Russians' hesitancy to get vaccinated and urged them to get the shots, but firmly ruled out making them mandatory. He responded to the rising infections and deaths by ordering Russians to stay off work from Oct. 30 to Nov. 7.

Facebook criticized: The panel appointed by Facebook to review its policy decisions sharply criticized the company Thursday for not being transparent about an internal program that gives prominent users preferential treatment on the social network.

The group, known as the Facebook Oversight Board, said Facebook failed to provide relevant information about a system called cross check, which was first disclosed by The Wall Street Journal and exempts high-profile users from rules like those prohibiting harassment or incitement to violence that others on the

platform must follow.

The board said the lack of transparency had harmed its ability to rule on Facebook's decisions to remove or keep online content posted by users. On Thursday, the group criticized Facebook for not being open with users about policies that led some content to be deleted.

California wildfires: The 2-month-old California wildfire that threatened the Lake Tahoe resort region over the summer has been declared 100% contained, officials said.

The fire, which scorched more than 346 square miles of the Sierra Nevada and burned hundreds of homes, reached the milestone late Wednesday, according to a report from firefighting officials. Storms this week covered the western side of the fire in snow, rain fell on the eastern side and stronger storms are expected throughout this week. The fire is expected to continue smoldering long into the winter, authorities said.

Slain British lawmaker: British police charged a 25-year-old man Thursday with the murder of a Conservative lawmaker, alleging that the killing last week was an act of terrorism by a supporter of the Islamic State group.

Prosecutors said Ali Harbi Ali, a man from London with Somali heritage, had "religious and ideological motivations" when he attacked David Amess last Friday in the town of Leigh-on-Sea.

Prosecutors allege Ali targeted Amess because the lawmaker had voted for airstrikes on Syria.

The fatal stabbing took place as Amess, 69, attended a routine meeting with his constituents, authorities said.

At a briefing hearing Thursday at London's Westminster Magistrates' Court, prosecutor James Cable said Ali began planning to kill a lawmaker two years ago.

Ali was not asked to enter a plea at the preliminary hearing. He was ordered detained until the next hearing.

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WORLD & NATION

A leap of desperation to reach UK

Migrants in France attempt to jump on moving trucks

By Arno Pedram
Associated Press

CALAIS, France — Mohammad and Jaber spend every day looking for the right truck, and this afternoon it feels like it could happen. This truck seems right. They scream to their friend to jump. He runs, latches on to the moving rig between the cab and the cargo compartment, and squeezes in. The truck doesn't stop, meaning the driver hasn't noticed.

The truck and its stow-away then disappear down a French highway toward the English Channel tunnel, the man's friends hoping he makes it to his destination: Britain.

Mohammad and Jaber are young Sudanese refugees who escaped war in their country, endured kidnappings or beatings in Libya, and crossed the deadly Mediterranean to Italy. They are now in the northern French town of Calais, and like hundreds of other people mostly from East Africa and the Middle East, they are trying to get to Britain by hiding in trucks in what has proved to be a dangerous and potentially lethal method.

Politicians on both sides of the English Channel are arguing about how to make them stop, after thousands of people crossed into Britain by various means in recent months in a flow that has been met with heightened anti-immigrant rhetoric.

While those with some money can pay to go to Britain on flimsy, overcrowded boats in often dangerous waters, the ones who can't have to jump on one of the tens of thousands of commercial trucks that pass each week between France and Britain.



A migrant runs alongside a truck this month in Calais, France, in an effort to stowaway on the vehicle for a ride through the tunnel to Britain. CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Many of the migrants in Calais want to reach the UK in search of economic opportunity or because of family and community ties. French authorities say another big draw is lax British rules toward migrants without residency papers. Only young and fit migrants unencumbered by other family members dare attempt the truck-jumping. It's a team effort.

On a cold autumn day in Calais last week, five young men crouched by a roundabout at a muddy construction site, watching as trucks emerged from a warehouse. A sixth young man hid close to the road.

When a promising-looking truck came out, the other men screamed at him to jump on.

There's a code to tell jumpers which one of the exiting trucks they should

grab onto.

"We tell them number one, no, number two, no, number three, yes!" Mohammad explained, giving only his first name for fear of arrest or expulsion for trying to cross borders illegally.

The truck drivers check to see that no one enters their rigs, or stop to tell would-be stowaways they're not going to Britain and that there's no point in climbing aboard. Police in patrol cars come by often, too, their sirens blaring, to deter the men.

Once aboard a rig, the jumpers pay close attention to the truck's route. Only one sequence of left and right turns will lead them to the promised land across the Channel. If the combination is the wrong one, they get off and start over again.

Mohammad twice managed to get on a truck

unnoticed but had to jump off when he realized it was not going to the UK.

Some ride in the space between the cab and the cargo. Some climb into the cargo compartment if they can pry the doors open.

And even if the vehicle is going in the right direction, more challenges and danger await the stowaways. Police use technology at the Channel tunnel to scan trucks for body heat and moving shadows.

If the stowaways are discovered, they are forced out of the vehicles by police. More than 18,000 were discovered in trucks last year, and 11,000 so far in 2021.

Refugee advocacy groups and human rights observers report receiving calls for help from migrants in refrigerated trucks who say they are suffocating or about to

die from hypothermia. Some say they have been roughed up by police when caught.

Some suffer broken bones or worse from trying to jump onto moving trucks. In late September, 20-year-old Yasser Abdallah was crushed to death by a truck.

Abdallah, too, had fled Sudan. He dreamed of being a taxi driver in Britain. The Calais migrant community grieved for him, and a week later, more than 300 came out to march in his memory.

In a written appeal to truck drivers, the marchers asked: "When you notice a refugee in the truck, you shake the truck and brake again and again until we let go. Why can't we continue our travel?"

The truck jumpers have kept on trying.

At night, they sleep in the forest around Calais, in a tent if they're lucky, but usually

under a tree. Police raid the encampments every morning, arresting them, tear-gassing them and confiscating their belongings, according to human rights observers.

"Some people stay one day, some one week, some one month, me, four months and 15 days," Mohammad said. He and others estimate two to three a day succeed in hopping a truck to Britain.

Ahmad, a 28-year-old, Sudanese truck jumper who left his country in 2018 because of the war, showed a reporter a TikTok video dated one day after Yasser died, from the account of someone who made it across.

On the video, a man runs by a white and blue truck and pulls himself up.

The video is overlaid with Arabic text, the Union Jack and two letters from the English alphabet: "UK."



The Nuri rocket thunders toward orbit Thursday from the Naro Space Center in South Korea. Nuri is the country's first rocket built entirely with domestic technology. YONHAP VIA AP

SKorea rocket test fails to put a dummy satellite into orbit

By Kim Tong-Hyung
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea's first domestically produced space rocket reached its desired altitude but failed to deliver a dummy payload into orbit in its first test launch Thursday.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, who observed the launch on-site, still described the test as an "excellent accomplishment" that takes the country a step further in its pursuit of a satellite launch program.

Live footage showed the 154-foot rocket soaring into the air with flames shooting out of its engines following blastoff at Naro Space Center, the country's lone spaceport, on Goheung, a small island off its southern coast.

Lim Hye-sook, the country's science minister, said Nuri's first and second stages separated properly and that the third stage ejected the payload — a 1.5-ton block of stainless steel and aluminum — at 435 miles above Earth.

But she said launch data suggested that the third

stage's engine burned out early after 475 seconds, about 50 seconds shorter than planned, failing to provide the payload with enough speed to stabilize in orbit.

Officials from the Korea Aerospace Research Institute, the country's space agency, said debris from the payload would have landed somewhere in waters south of Australia.

The institute said it was planning to form an inspection committee soon to analyze what went wrong and map out adjustments before the rocket's next test launch.

The launch, which took place at 5 p.m., had been delayed by an hour because engineers needed more time to examine the rocket's valves. There had also been concerns that strong winds and other conditions would pose challenges for a successful launch.

"Although (the launch) failed to achieve its objectives perfectly, it was an excellent accomplishment for a first launch," Moon said in a televised speech.

"The separations of the rockets, fairings (covering the payload) and the

dummy satellite worked smoothly. All this was done based on technology that is completely ours," he added.

After relying on other countries to launch its satellites since the early 1990s, South Korea is trying to become the 10th nation to send a satellite into space with its own technology.

Officials say such an ability would be crucial for the country's space ambitions, which include plans for sending more advanced communications satellites and acquiring its own military intelligence satellites.

The country is also hoping to send a probe to the moon by 2030.

Nuri is the country's first space launch vehicle built entirely with domestic technology.

The three-stage rocket is powered by five 75-ton class rocket engines placed in its first and second stages. It is designed to deliver a 1.5-ton payload into orbit 372 to 497 miles above Earth.

Scientists and engineers at KARI plan to test Nuri several more times, including conducting another launch with a dummy device in May 2022, before trying with a real satellite.

Ex-officer gets nearly 5 years at resentencing in '17 killing

By Steve Karnowski
and Amy Forliti
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — A Minneapolis police officer who fatally shot an unarmed woman after she called 911 to report a possible rape happening behind her home was sentenced Thursday to nearly five years in prison — the most the judge could impose but less than half the 12 ½ years he was sentenced to for his murder conviction that was overturned last month.

Mohamed Noor was initially convicted of third-degree murder and manslaughter in the 2017 fatal shooting of Justine Ruszczyk Damond, a 40-year-old dual U.S.-Australian citizen and yoga teacher who was engaged to be married. But the Minnesota Supreme Court tossed out Noor's murder conviction and sentence last month, saying the third-degree murder statute didn't fit the case because it can only apply when a defendant shows a "generalized indifference to human life," not when the conduct is directed at a particular person, as it was with Damond.

Judge Kathryn Quaintance, who also presided at Noor's trial, granted prosecutors' request to impose the maximum sentence in state guidelines on Noor's manslaughter conviction, 57 months. In doing so, she brushed aside the defense's request for 41 months. With good behavior, Noor could be freed on supervised release by next summer. The state prison website listed his anticipated release date as June 27.

"Mr. Noor, I am not surprised that you have been a model prisoner," Quaintance said. "However, I do not know any authority that would make that grounds for reducing your sentence."



Former police Officer Mohamed Noor, center, addresses Judge Kathryn Quaintance in court Thursday in Minneapolis.

She cited Noor "shooting across the nose of your partner" and endangering others the night of the shooting to hand down the stiffest sentence she could.

Noor, who was fired after he was charged, has served more than 29 months. In Minnesota, inmates who behave well typically serve two-thirds of their prison sentences and the remainder on supervised release.

Noor testified at his 2019 trial that he and his partner were driving slowly in an alley when a bang on their police SUV made him fear for their lives. He said he saw a woman appear at the partner's driver's side window and raise her right arm before he fired a shot from the passenger seat to stop what he thought was a threat.

He was sentenced to 12 ½ years on the murder count and had been serving most of his time at an out-of-state facility.

Noor's attorneys, Tom Plunkett and Peter Wold, sought 41 months at the resentencing, citing Noor's good behavior behind bars and harsh conditions he faced during many months in solitary.

Plunkett said Thursday that much attention has been given to the victim as a kind and giving person —

"all true," he said.

But Plunkett said there is "similar goodness" in Noor. He said Noor had always sought to help people around him, and recapped Noor's good behavior while in prison.

Assistant Hennepin County Attorney Amy Sweasy, meanwhile, asked Quaintance to give Noor the longest possible sentence. She said the case "is worse than typical" because of who Noor is. "The most serious sentence this court can impose is required," she said.

Damond's parents, John Ruszczyk and Maryann Heffernan, also asked the judge to impose the longest sentence.

Damond's death angered citizens in the U.S. and Australia, and led to the resignation of Minneapolis' police chief. It also led the department to change its policy on body cameras; Noor and his partner didn't have theirs activated when they were investigating the 911 call.

Noor, who is Somali American, was believed to be the first Minnesota officer convicted of murder for an on-duty shooting. Days after his conviction, Minneapolis agreed to pay \$20 million to Damond's family.

WORLD & NATION

Success in virus fight puzzles Japan

Cases plummet, but officials don't have a clear answer why

By Mari Yamaguchi
Associated Press

TOKYO — Almost overnight, Japan has become a stunning, and somewhat mysterious, coronavirus success story.

Daily new COVID-19 cases have plummeted from a mid-August peak of nearly 6,000 in Tokyo, with case-

loads in the densely populated capital now routinely below 100, an 11-month low. The bars are packed, the trains are crowded, and the mood is celebratory, despite a general bafflement over what, exactly, is behind the sharp drop.

Japan, unlike other places in Europe and Asia, has never had anything close to a lockdown, just a series of states of emergency.

Some possible factors in Japan's success include a belated but remarkably rapid vaccination campaign, an emptying out of many nightlife areas as fears spread during the recent surge in cases, a widespread practice, well before the pandemic, of wearing masks and bad weather in late August that kept people home.

But with vaccine efficacy gradually waning and winter approaching, experts worry that without knowing what exactly why cases have dropped so drastically, Japan could face another wave like this summer, when hospitals overflowed with serious cases and deaths soared — though the numbers were lower than pre-vaccination levels.

Many credit the vaccination campaign, especially among younger people, for bringing infections down. Nearly 70% of the population is fully vaccinated.

“Rapid and intensive vaccinations in Japan



A woman receives a dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in a game room with pachinko machines Sept. 13 in Osaka, Japan. KYODO NEWS

among those younger than 64 might have created a temporary condition similar to herd immunity,” said Dr. Kazuhiro Tateda, a Toho University professor of virology.

Tateda noted that vaccination rates surged in July to September, just as the more infectious delta variant was spreading fast.

He cautioned, however, that breakthrough infections in the U.S., Britain and other places where inoculations began months earlier than in Japan show that vaccines alone are not perfect and efficacy gradually wears off.

Japan's vaccinations started in mid-February, with health workers and the elderly first in line.

Shortages of imported vaccines kept progress slow until late May, when the supply stabilized and daily inoculation targets were raised to above 1 million doses to maximize protec-

tion before the Olympics in July and August.

The number of daily shots rose to about 1.5 million in July, pushing vaccination rates from 15% in early July to 65% by early October.

Daily new cases surged just weeks ahead of the Olympics, forcing Japan to hold the Games with daily caseloads of more than 5,000 in Tokyo and around 20,000 nationwide in early August. Tokyo reported 40 cases Sunday, below 100 for the ninth straight day and lowest this year. Nationwide, Japan reported 429 cases Sunday for an accumulated total of about 1.71 million and 18,000 deaths since the pandemic began early last year.

So why the drop? “It’s a tough question, and we have to consider the effect of the vaccinations progress, which is extremely big,” said Disease Control and Prevention Center Director Norio

Ohmagari. “At the same time, people who gather in high-risk environments, such as crowded and less-ventilated places, may have been already infected and acquired natural immunity by now.”

Though some speculated that the drop in cases might be due to less testing, Tokyo metropolitan government data showed the positivity rate fell from 25% in late August to 1% in mid-October, while the number of tests fell by one-third. Masataka Inokuchi, the Tokyo Medical Association deputy chief, said falling positivity rates show infections have slowed.

Japan's state of emergency measures were not lockdowns but requests that focused mainly on bars and restaurants, which were asked to close early and not serve alcohol. Many people continued to commute on crowded trains, and attended sports and cultural

events at stadiums with some social distancing controls.

The emergency requests have ended and the government is gradually expanding social and economic activity while allowing athletic events and package tours on a trial basis using vaccination certificates and increased testing.

To speed up inoculations, former Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, who left office recently, expanded the number of health workers legally eligible to give shots, opened large-scale vaccination centers and promoted workplace vaccinations beginning in late June.

Kyoto University professor Hiroshi Nishiura told a recent government advisory board that he estimates vaccinations helped some 650,000 people avoid infection and saved more than 7,200 lives between March and September.

Many experts initially blamed younger people, seen drinking on the streets, for spreading the virus, but said data showed many in their 40s and 50s also frequented nightlife districts. Most serious cases and deaths were among the unvaccinated in their 50s or younger.

Takaji Wakita, director of the National Institute of Infectious Diseases, said he is worried people have resumed partying, noting that the slowing of infections may have already hit bottom.

“It is important to further push down the caseloads in case of a future resurgence of infections,” Wakita said.

Many people are cautious about letting their guard down.

Mask-wearing “has become so normal,” said university student Mizuki Kawano.

“I’m still worried about the virus,” she added.



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BUSINESS

COURANT.COM / BUSINESS

Driver behind the wheel in Tesla crash, NTSB says

Fatal Texas wreck in April raised questions of whether Autopilot was operating

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

DETROIT — A driver was behind the wheel when a Tesla electric car crashed and burned in April near Houston, killing two men, neither of whom was found in the driver's seat.

The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board announced the findings in an investigative report update released Thursday on the April 17 crash on a residential road in Spring, Texas.

Although first responders found one man in the back seat and the other in the front passenger seat, the NTSB said the driver and a passenger were in the front seats with belts buckled at the time of the crash. It said the Tesla Model S car was traveling up to 67 mph in the five seconds leading up to the crash, and the driver was accelerating.

The investigation is continuing, and the agency made no determination as to whether Tesla's Autopilot partially automated driver-assist system was running at the time of the crash. The NTSB said it

is still looking into Autopilot, whether the men could have had trouble getting out of the car, driver toxicology tests and other items. The agency will make those determinations in a final report.

The report left unclear how or why the driver unbuckled the seat belt and changed positions, although it said the crash damaged the car's high-voltage lithium-ion battery case, where the fire started.

The trip began at the owner's home near the end of a cul-de-sac. The car traveled 550 feet before leaving the road on a curve, going over a curb, hitting a drainage culvert, a raised manhole and a tree. The crash occurred on a two-lane road, killing the owner, 59, and the passenger, 69.

In a preliminary report from May, the NTSB said it tested a different Tesla on the same road, and the Autopilot driver-assist system could not be fully used. Investigators could not get the system's automated steering system to work, but were able to use Traffic Aware Cruise Control.

Autopilot needs both the cruise control and the automatic steering to function.

Traffic Aware Cruise Control can keep the car a safe distance from vehicles in front of it, while autosteer keeps it in its own lane. The report said the road also did not have lane lines.

The NTSB, which has no regulatory authority and can only make recommendations, said it's working with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on the probe. NHTSA has the power to make vehicle safety regulations. The federal probe is running at the same time as a parallel investigation by local authorities, the NTSB said.

The Texas crash raised questions of whether Autopilot was working at the time. The company says in owner's manuals and on its website that Autopilot is a driver-assist system and drivers must be ready to take action at any time.

NHTSA has stepped up its investigations into Tesla Autopilot. In August, it opened a formal investigation into the system. The investigation covers 765,000 vehicles. Of the crashes identified as part of the probe, 17 people were injured and one was killed.

Trump set to launch own social media site

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nine months after being expelled from social media for his role in inciting the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection, former President Donald Trump said he's launching a new media company with its own social media platform.

Trump says his goal in launching the Trump Media & Technology Group and its "Truth Social" app is to create a rival to the Big Tech companies that have shut him out and denied him the megaphone that was paramount to his national rise.

Conservative voices do well on traditional social media.

On Wednesday, half of Facebook's 10 top performing link posts were from conservative media, commentators or politicians, according to a daily list compiled by a New York Times technology columnist and an internet studies professor using Facebook's own data.

Trump has spoken about launching his own social media site ever since he was barred from Twitter and Facebook. An earlier effort to launch a blog on his existing website was abandoned after the page drew dismal views.

In addition to the Truth Social app, which is expected to soft-launch next month with a nationwide rollout early next year, the company says it is planning a video-on-demand service dubbed TMTG+ that will feature entertainment programming, news and podcasts.

Truth Social's terms of service bar users from annoying any of the site's employees and from statements that "disparage, tarnish, or otherwise harm, in our opinion, us and/or the Site."

The new venture said it had been created through a merger with Digital World Acquisition Corp.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Farm's tomatoes hit US roadblock

WASHINGTON — The U.S. ordered a halt Thursday to imports of tomatoes from a Mexican farming company and its subsidiaries for what officials said was abusive treatment of workers that amounts to forced labor.

Customs and Border Protection issued an order to detain shipments from Agropecuarios Tom, based in the Mexican state of San Luis Potosi. The agency said its investigation found evidence of deception, withholding of wages, debt bondage and other abusive working and living conditions. It said the Mexican government took action against the same farm in 2020.

The company disputed the allegations but said it is waiting for further details from CBP so it can respond in detail.

Facebook to pay for French news

PARIS — Facebook said Thursday that it has struck a deal with a group of French publishers to pay for links to their news stories that are shared by people on the social network.

The company says it inked the licensing agreement with the Alliance de la Presse d'Information Generale, which represents 300 French publishers.

The financial terms weren't disclosed. Facebook also said it would launch in January a French version of its Facebook News product, where the group's publishers could allow their stories to appear.

The deal is the result of a wider push by authorities in Europe and elsewhere to force Facebook and other social media companies to compensate publishers for content.



Poultry is linked to some 310,000 salmonella infections, leading to roughly 26,500 hospitalizations and 420 deaths in the U.S. each year. The USDA is setting up pilot projects to try and cut those numbers. Above, workers at a poultry plant in Fremont, Nebraska. **NATI HARNIK/AP 2019**

Plan to keep bacteria at bay

USDA rethinks salmonella control at poultry plants in a bid to cut illnesses and deaths

By Josh Funk
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Federal health officials are rethinking their approach to controlling salmonella in poultry plants in the hope of reducing the number of illnesses linked to the bacteria each year, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced several steps it plans to take to achieve that goal.

Poultry is linked to roughly 23% of the 1.35 million salmonella infections in the U.S. each year that leads to roughly 26,500 hospitalizations and 420 deaths, and those numbers haven't changed much.

So the agency said this week that it plans to set up pilot projects to try changing the way it tests for salmonella in plants and to try encouraging the industry to do more on the farm to reduce the amount of bacteria on chickens before they enter the plant. The USDA also plans to hold a series of meetings with industry officials and interested groups to discuss other ways to reduce the

risk of salmonella illnesses.

"This is deeper, more targeted and more system-based approach than in the past," Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said.

Currently, the USDA tests for the presence of salmonella on poultry at processing plants. One of the proposed pilot projects would add tests for the quantity of bacteria present and tests for the specific strains of salmonella that cause the most illnesses.

The agency also wants to encourage farmers to take a combination of steps proven to reduce bacteria in their chickens, including using more vaccinations, adding probiotics to feed and doing more to ensure that the birds' bedding, food and water remain clean.

The National Chicken Council trade group has said the industry has already done several things to reduce salmonella contamination. Spokesman Tom Super said many chicken farmers are already taking steps recommended by the USDA.

The USDA said 89% of the nation's poultry processing plants are now meeting the agency's performance standard for limiting salmonella in chicken parts. That is up from three years ago when only 71% of the plants met the standard.

Zach Corrigan of Food and Water Watch,

an advocacy group that supports stricter food safety regulations, said it sounds like the USDA's new efforts are "a move in the right direction" but he still hopes the agency will do more to control salmonella by declaring that meat found to have the bacteria can't be sold to consumers.

Currently, it is legal to sell raw chicken with salmonella bacteria on it, which is why health officials stress the need for safe handling of raw poultry, including thoroughly cooking the meat to kill potential germs.

They also warn people should not rinse raw chicken, which can spread bacteria across a greater portion of preparation areas.

Brian Ronholm, a former USDA undersecretary for food safety who now oversees food policy for Consumer Reports, praised the federal agency's comprehensive approach to reducing salmonella illnesses.

"Some consumers have told us they feel like they have to handle chicken like it's toxic waste, and that's not how anyone wants to cook in the kitchen. We're hopeful that these steps laid out by USDA will result in more consumer confidence about the safety of the poultry products they bring into their homes," Ronholm said.

Jobless claims fall to pandemic low of 290K

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell last week to a new low since the pandemic erupted, evidence that layoffs are declining as companies hold onto workers.

Unemployment claims dropped 6,000 to 290,000 last week, the third consecutive drop, the Labor Department said Thursday. That's the fewest people to apply for benefits since March 14, 2020, when the pandemic intensified. Applications for jobless aid, which generally track the pace of layoffs, have fallen steadily from about 900,000 in January.

Unemployment claims are increasingly

returning to normal, but many other aspects of the job market haven't yet done so. Hiring has slowed in the past two months, even as companies and other employers have posted a near-record number of open jobs. Officials such as Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell had hoped more people would find work in September as schools reopened, easing child care constraints, and enhanced unemployment aid ended nationwide.

Yet, that hasn't happened.

Instead, some observers are starting to consider whether some of those who had jobs before the pandemic, and lost them, may have permanently stopped looking for work.

On Tuesday, Christopher Waller, a

member of the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors, said that 2 million of the 22 million jobs lost to the pandemic may not return anytime soon because retirements have accelerated so quickly since COVID-19 hit.

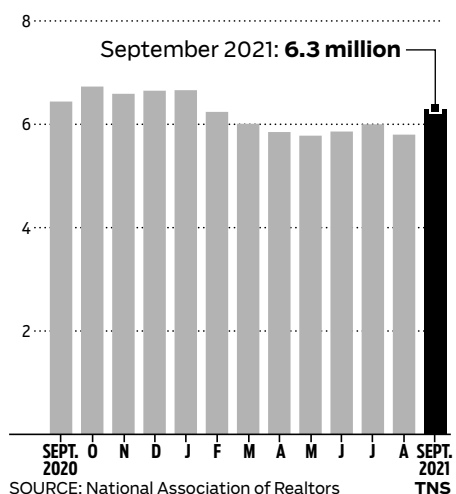
The Labor Department's report Thursday also showed that the number of people receiving jobless aid continues to fall steadily. In the week of Oct. 2, the latest data available, 3.3 million people received unemployment benefits, down from 3.6 million in the previous week.

A year ago, nearly 24 million people were getting unemployment aid.

About 7 million people lost jobless benefits in September after two emergency programs, set up in March 2020, expired.

Existing home sales

Scale in millions



BUSINESS



Steam billows from cooling towers at a coal-fired power station Sept. 27 in Nanjing, China. The world is in an energy crunch as winter looms and the pandemic continues. CHINATOPIX

With winter looming, energy crunch hits global recovery

By David McHugh, Colleen Barry and Joe McDonald
Associated Press

Power shortages are turning out streetlights and shutting down factories in China. German corn and wheat farmers can't find fertilizer, made using natural gas. And fears are rising that Europe will have to ration electricity if it's a cold winter.

The world is gripped by an energy crunch — a fierce squeeze on some of the key markets for natural gas, oil and other fuels that keep the global economy running and the lights and heat on in homes. Heading into winter, that has meant higher utility bills, more expensive products and growing concern about how energy-consuming Europe and China will recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The biggest squeeze is on natural gas in Europe, which imports 90% of its supply — largely from Russia — and where prices have risen to five times what they were at the start of the year, to 95 euros from about 19 euros per megawatt hour.

Analysts blame a confluence of events for the gas crunch: Demand rose sharply as the economy rebounded from the pandemic. A cold winter depleted reserves, then the summer was less windy than usual, so wind turbines didn't generate as much energy. Europe's chief supplier, Russia's Gazprom, held back extra summer supplies beyond its long-term contracts to fill reserves at home for winter. China's electricity demand has come roaring back, vacuuming up limited supplies of liquid natural gas, which moves by ship. There also are limited facilities to export natural gas from the United States.

Costlier natural gas has even pushed up oil prices because some power generators in Asia can switch from using gas to oil-based products. U.S. crude is over \$83 per barrel, the highest in seven years, while international benchmark Brent is around \$85, with OPEC and allied countries cautious about restoring production cuts made during the pandemic.

The crunch is likely short-term but it's difficult to say how long higher fossil-fuel prices will last, said Claudia Kemfert, an energy economics expert at the German Institute for Economic Research in Berlin.

But "the long-term answer that has to be taken out of this is to invest in renewables and energy saving," she said.

People worldwide also are facing higher utility bills this winter, including in the U.S., where officials have warned home heating prices could jump as much as 54%. Governments in Spain, France, Italy and Greece have announced measures to help low-income households, while the European Union has urged similar aid.

In China, outages have followed high prices for coal and gas as electric companies power down amid limits in passing costs to customers or government orders to stay under emission thresholds.

Factories in Jiangsu province, northwest of Shanghai, and Zhejiang in the southeast shut down in mid-September, and dozens warned deliveries might be delayed ahead of the Christmas shopping season.

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EV battery plants get charge from automakers, tech firms

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

DETROIT — Global automakers and tech companies are stepping up the pace when it comes to building factories and prepare for what many believe will be a fast-moving transition from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles.

This week, Toyota, Stellantis, Foxconn, Ford and Volvo all made announcements about electric vehicle component or assembly plants, or plans to raise capital to fund the transition. The moves come on top of previous plans from Ford and General Motors to build five U.S. battery factories in anticipation of the shift to electric power.

The moves are ahead of demand at the moment, but forecasters predict that the share of electric vehicles will rise dramatically as more battery-electric models are rolled out as governments increase requirements for zero-emissions vehicles to fight climate change.

At present, only about 4.8% of the roughly 80 million new vehicles sold globally run solely on electricity, according to LMC Automotive.

But consulting firm Alix Partners predicts that will rise to 11% in 2025 and 24% in 2030. If plug-in gas-electric hybrids, which can travel short distances solely on electricity, are included, that figure rises to 28% in 10 years.

Simultaneously, Alix Partners predicts that global sales of gas- and diesel-powered vehicles will fall from the current 89% to around 39% by 2030. Gas-electric hybrids, which run on gasoline and electricity at the same time, rise from 7% currently to 33% in 2030.

"All of us are trying to get a fix on how customers will accept electric vehicles,"



A man stands by as two people check out the all-electric Volvo XC40 in April in Shanghai, China. Volvo is planning to offer only electric vehicles by 2030. NG HAN GUAN/AP

said Chris Reynolds, chief administrative officer for Toyota in North America. "We don't know for sure, but we have to be ready."

Toyota said it plans to build a new \$1.29 billion factory in the U.S. to manufacture batteries for hybrid and fully electric vehicles. The location wasn't announced, but the company said it eventually will employ 1,750 people and start making batteries in 2025, gradually expanding through 2031.

The plant is part of \$3.4 billion that Toyota plans to spend in the U.S. on automotive batteries during the next decade. It didn't detail where the remaining \$2.1 billion would be spent, but part of that likely will go for another battery factory.

Stellantis, formerly Fiat Chrysler, and LG Energy Solution said this week that they plan to build a battery manufacturing facility to help the automaker get 40% of its U.S. sales from vehicles that run at least partly on electricity by 2030. They didn't say where the plant would be.

Also this week, the Taiwanese company that makes smartphones for Apple and others, Foxconn Technology Group, said it would produce electric cars

and buses for auto brands in China, North America, Europe and other markets.

Volvo Cars has unveiled more details of its initial public offering that will fund its ambitious plan to transform into an all-electric vehicle company by 2030. The Swedish auto brand, owned by Chinese carmaker Geely, said the IPO would value the company at \$18.8-\$23 billion when shares start trading Oct. 28.

And Ford Motor Co. announced that it will turn a transmission factory in northwest England into a plant that will make electric power units for cars and trucks sold throughout Europe.

Most of the announcements lacked specifics and some didn't say how many jobs would be created.

Jeff Schuster, senior vice president of forecasting for LMC Automotive, said that's because it's "in vogue" for automakers to make such announcements, which are well-received by investors.

"Behind the scenes this has been building as we look at moving to electric vehicle technology globally," he said. "This is the foundation. You need the batteries before you can get there."

MARKET RUNDOWN

Friday, October 22, 2021

↓ DOW
35,603.08 -6.26

↑ 10-YR T-BOND
1.67% +0.4

↓ GOLD
\$1,781.20 -2.90

Dow Jones Industrials
Close: 35,603.08
Change: -6.26 (flat)

Commodities

	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	82.50	83.42	+70.03%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	5.12	5.17	+101.46%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.48	2.51	+74.19%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,781.20	1,784.10	-5.91%
Silver (oz)	24.15	24.42	-8.29%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx
Britain	1.3784	.7255
Canada	.8078	1.2380
China	.1564	6.3933
Euro	1.1624	.8603
Japan	.008778	113.92
Mexico	.049253	20.3033

Money Rates

	CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Prime rate	3.25	3.25
3-mo. T-Bill	0.06	0.05
6-mo. T-Bill	0.06	0.06
5-yr T-Note	1.23	1.05
10-yr T-Note	1.67	1.52
30-yr T-Bond	2.13	2.02

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	15,472.56	-50.36	-.32%	+12.78%
London	7,190.30	-32.80	-.45%	+11.30%
Hong Kong	26,017.53	-118.49	-.45%	-4.46%
Nikkei	28,708.58	-546.97	-1.87%	+4.61%

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	35,603.08	-6.26	+16.33%
DOW Trans.	15,617.13	+155.45	+24.87%
DOW Util.	915.49	-.67	+5.88%
NYSE Comp.	17,083.15	-16.06	+17.61%
Nasdaq Comp.	15,215.70	+94.02	+18.06%
S&P 500	4,549.78	+13.59	+21.13%
S&P 400	2,793.74	+9.54	+21.12%
Wilshire 5000	47,398.16	+162.64	+20.13%
Russell 2000	2,296.18	+6.41	+16.27%

Stocks of Local Interest									
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD %CHG.	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD %CHG.
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	39.24	-1.64	+1750.9		MetLife Inc (MET)	65.81	-.79	+40.2	
AT&T Inc (T)	25.76	-.15	-10.4		NextPlay Technol Inc (NXT)	2.40	-.06	+5.7	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	119.33	+2.94	+30.1		Novartis AG (NVS)	84.67	+.20	-10.3	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	19.89	+.37	+26.1		Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	85.35	-.11	+26.4	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	79.49	+1.14	...		Palantir Technol (PLTR)	24.78	+.56	+5.2	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	149.48	+.22	+12.7		PayPal Holdings (PYPL)	243.21	-15.15	+3.8	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	52.14	-.67	+14.7		Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	18.70	-.11	+44.6	
Bank of America (BAC)	46.83	-.26	+54.5		Pfizer Inc (PFE)	42.86	+.06	+16.4	
Barnes Group (B)	42.30	-.43	-16.6		Pinterest Inc (PINS)	61.35	-1.33	-6.9	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2411.13	+26.95	+8.3		Pitney Bowes (PBI)	7.26	-.10	+17.9	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	57.81	-.26	-6.8		Plug Power Inc (PLUG)	33.67	+.75	-.7	
CSX Corp (CSX)	35.01	+.55	+16.7		Progenity Inc (PROG)	2.50	-.22	-52.9	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	86.86	+.81	+27.2		Prudential Fncl (PRU)	113.27	-.73	+45.1	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	22.33	-.11	+3.1		Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	63.09	-.31	+8.2	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	54.32	+.30	+44.0		Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	91.61	-.07	+28.1	
Charter Commun (CHTR)	735.67	+1.66	+11.2		Retail Prop Amer (RPAI)	13.15	+.43	+53.6	
Cigna Corp (CI)	216.23	+1.47	+3.9		Rogers Corp (ROG)	193.21	+1.96	+24.4	
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc (CLF)	21.16	-.53	+45.3		SOS Ltd (SOS)	2.61	-.15	+76.4	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	54.03	-.68	+3.1		SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	74.41	+.55	+2.3	
ContextLogic Inc (WISH)	5.82	-.27	-68.1		Salem Media Group (SALM)	3.71	+.41	+256.7	
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	9.81	+1.19	-30.6		Sesen Bio Inc (SESN)	1.25	-.02	-7.4	
Digital World Acq A (DWAC)	45.50	+35.54	+357.3		Snap Inc A (SNAP)	75.11	-.54	+50.0	
Disney (DIS)	171.34	+.79	-5.4		SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	20.99	-.06	-7.3	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	120.67	+1.51	+31.9		Sphere 3D Corp (ANY)	7.05	-.52	+393.0	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	24.22	-.01	+19.8		Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	187.94	+.37	+5.3	
Eversource Energy (ES)	86.09	-.21	-.5		Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	25.87	+.11	+34.0	
Ford Motor (F)	16.55	+.51	+88.3		Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.70	+.02	+47.5	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	8.11	-.02	-27.4		Terex Corp (TEX)	45.67	-.42	+30.9	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	208.04	-.40	+39.8		Tesla Inc (TSLA)	894.00	+28.20	+26.7	
Gen Electric (GE)	103.15	-2.85	...		Tilray Inc (TLRY)	11.56	-.03	+40.0	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	72.97	-.13	+49.0		Travelers Cos (TRV)	160.19	+1.50	+14.1	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	224.52	+.88	+5.6		United Rentals (URI)	365.40	-.52	+57.6	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	17.20	+.10	+29.9		UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	442.28	+7.19	+26.1	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	23.41	-.72	+38.1		Virtus Invest (VRTS)	321.21	-1.73	+48.0	
Intel Corp (INTC)	56.00	+.63	+12.4		Voya Financial (VOYA)	68.85	-.45	+17.1	
IBM (IBM)	128.33	-13.57	+1.9		Waitr Holdints Inc (WTRH)	1.60	+.20	-42.4	
Kadmon Holdings Inc (KDMN)	9.42	+.82	+127.0		Webster Financial (WBS)	57.46	-1.15	+36.3	
Kaman (KAMN)	37.97	+.27	-33.5		White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1091.89	+5.24	+9.1	
Keycorp (KEY)	23.78	+.06	+44.9		World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	60.24	-.03	+25.4	
Kinder Morgan Inc (KMI)	17.53	-1.12	+28.2		XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	85.03	+1.93	+22.6	
Kite Realty Grp (KRG)	21.18	-.68	+41.6		Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	20.86	+.31	-10.0	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	74.73	-1.03	+48.5		Xiaobai Maimai Inc (HX)	9.14	-9.73	+962.8	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	48.09	+1.02	+52.6						
Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)	94.83	+.04	+14.5						
Meten Holding Group (METX)	.32	...	-83.9						

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Stubborn Beauty Brewing
Nummy Nummy IPA

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Beef Loin Boneless

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OPINION

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How much further can the Army be cut?

By Thomas Spoehr
The Heritage Foundation

How lean can we make the U.S. Army before it's unable to do its job? Army Secretary Christine Wormuth recently declared her service must "ruthlessly prioritize" its "transformation" efforts." To that end, she said, the Army is "going to have to look hard at everything we do and everything about how we do it." That sounds reasonable ... except when you consider that, since 2018, the Army has already been painfully slicing billions from its budget to preserve readiness, maintain a minimum size and fund critical modernization programs.

If, as Secretary Wormuth suggests, further cuts are in the offing, it could once more leave a "hollow Army," one unable to effectively respond when the nation calls.

Three years ago, under pressure to scrounge money, the Army began conducting what they called "night court" reviews. Those reviews went "program by program, activity by activity" to make hard trade-offs to find money. In 2018, the Army reallocated roughly \$25 billion to higher priority

programs. The Army has continued this practice each year since.

Just last year, the Army released a list of 41 program terminations and 39 program reductions made to preserve the semblance of a modernization program. The Army's 2022 proposed budget reflected yet more cuts, including reductions to precious unit training funds, cuts to the prized Joint Lightweight Tactical Vehicle program, and cuts to key helicopter modernization programs.

This spring, Army Chief General James McConville candidly admitted the three years of "grueling night court drills" have taken a tremendous toll. "The first year we took the low-lying fruit, and we got to the middle of the tree [in year two]," he said. "[Now] we're at the top of the tree. There's no more fruit in that tree."

Just to keep up with inflation and preserve a semblance of readiness, the Army's 2022 budget needed to be \$180 billion. Nevertheless, in its first year, the Biden administration chose to request only \$173 billion — a \$7 billion cut in purchasing power. Secretary Wormuth's remarks portend even more cuts may be on the way.

In light of the China threat, some suggest that the Navy and Air Force's shares of the Pentagon budget need to be increased at the expense of the Army. Problem is, we've "been there, done that." Since 2008 when the Army was bearing the costs of fights in Iraq and Afghanistan, its budget has steadily declined. In the 2022 budget request, the Army's portion is 24.1 percent, compared to a Navy share of 29.5 percent.

Still others suggest the Army should shrink in size to save money. That suggestion ignores that the Army is already nearly as small as it has been in modern history and that every Army leader in recent times has cautioned against further reductions. The bipartisan commission charged to review the 2018 National Defense Strategy (which counted among its members the current deputy secretary of defense and defense comptroller) unanimously found "the United States needs a larger force than it has today if it is to meet the objectives of the strategy."

Certainly, the Army must continue to look inward and ensure that every dollar it spends delivers meaningful combat capability. Fiscal stewardship is essential

to maintaining public trust and to building the best Army possible. The reality is that there is never going to be enough money, even in a wealthy nation like the United States, to fund every military requirement, and tough decisions always must be made.

But America can afford a strong defense. Even Congress understands the critical need to fund the military. This year, the House of Representatives soundly rebuffed efforts to slash the defense budget. The Senate Armed Services Committee did the same. Indeed, Congress may wind up adding roughly \$25 billion to President Joe Biden's anemic defense budget request.

Before the Army commences another round of "ruthless prioritization," it would do well to take a look around the "neighborhood." China, Russia, Iran and North Korea all embarked on breakneck modernizations of their military forces. The Army has not been keeping pace. Once cut too far, it takes a long time to regrow an effective Army. As a nation, we will regret it if we allow our Army to wither.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency LLC.

Court packing remains on the table

By Noah Feldman
Bloomberg Opinion

It should be no surprise to anyone that the Biden administration's commission on Supreme Court reform seems poised to offer recommendations that will not endorse packing the court.

After all, the commission was born of Joe Biden's desire during the presidential campaign not to commit himself to adding new justices. It was populated with distinguished legal scholars and members of the bar, most of whom share a meaningful commitment to the preservation of our legal institutions.

But it doesn't follow that court packing is permanently off the table. That's because of the wild card introduced by the Mississippi antiabortion law that the Supreme Court will consider this fall and decide next spring.

Put bluntly, if the court overturns *Roe v. Wade*, all bets are off. That ruling would energize the Democratic base before the 2022 midterms, and if the party continues to control the House and the Senate, their voters will bring enormous pressure to bear on the leadership to restore abortion rights. If, as a practical matter, Biden and Democratic leaders in Congress hold the power to pack the court and restore *Roe*, it might be politically impossible for them to refuse to do so.

The game theory behind the interaction of court-packing advocates, the reform commission, the Democratic leadership and the Supreme Court is intricate — but not so intricate that it can't be mapped.

The court-packing advocates are still enraged by Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell's successful efforts to block the appointment of then Judge Merrick Garland to the court and the separate but equally devastating filling of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's seat by Justice Amy Coney Barrett.

These two events had different causes. The former was an exercise of raw political power; the latter was a consequence of Ginsburg's human fallibility and frailty. Together, however, they flipped the balance of the court to the conservative side, probably for a generation. Packing the court, to the advocates, is the only way to reverse or avoid a new era of conservative judicial activism.

The Democratic leadership, led by Biden, genuinely fears that packing the court would destroy the institution permanently as Republicans would do the same when they got the chance. What's more, moderate Democrats don't want to bear the political cost of alienating swing voters



People mourn the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in front of the Supreme Court. **TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY 2020**

by such a radical act.

At the same time, Biden and the party's congressional leaders can't afford to alienate the Democratic base too much by ignoring growing concerns about the court's conservative turn.

The first implicit job of the commission was to calm the waters by listening to all points of view and recommending caution. The commission's second job was to send a message to the Supreme Court justices that the idea of court packing is no longer inconceivable, even if it remains disfavored.

One way to do that was through a minority of commission members recommending court packing explicitly. Another way was allowing advocates of the idea to air their views before the commission. The goal here is to encourage Justice Brett Kavanaugh (and maybe even Barrett) to realize that any victory associated with the overturning *Roe* would be short-lived — and would lead to the destruction of an institution about which they care.

Seen from the perspective of the Supreme Court justices, a serious threat of court packing would be devastating. A

handful, such as Justice Clarence Thomas and perhaps Justice Samuel Alito, truly don't care, subscribing to the Latin maxim "fiat justitia ruat caelum" — let justice be done though the heavens fall.

For most of the justices on both sides of the ideological divide, however, a packed court would represent a court reduced in prestige, legitimacy and power. Justice Stephen Breyer, a pragmatic liberal who wants *Roe* preserved, has stayed on the court for an extra year to fight the idea because he cares about the institution and the rule of law.

For conservatives, court packing by Democrats would have a further cost: Their crusade to overturn *Roe* would turn out to have been a Pyrrhic victory. So the conservatives must ask themselves: Is it worth inviting the risk by repudiating *Roe*?

If *Roe* is reversed, moderate Democrats will try to deflect the possibility of court packing by introducing federal legislation protecting abortion rights even in states that pass anti-abortion laws.

If those laws pass, and the Supreme Court upholds them as constitutional, it might just be possible for the moder-

ate Democrats to assuage the party's base enough to avoid packing the court.

But if the Supreme Court blocks such pro-life federal legislation, which is certainly possible, the Democratic base will push so hard for court packing that the pressure on centrist Democratic senators will be far greater than the pressure currently on them to vote for the budget reconciliation bill.

The upshot is that the conservative justices must, right now, ask themselves what are the odds that court packing would succeed if they overrule *Roe*.

The best answer is that the risk would be higher than at any time in the last 90 years — no matter what the court reform commission report says.

If, however, those justices (or at least Kavanaugh, since it only would take his vote alongside Chief Justice Roberts and the three liberals) back away from the brink and keep abortion rights alive, there won't be court packing for the foreseeable future.

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This election season, Virginia obsessing the world



Gail Collins

We're heading around the bend, people! Elections are just a couple of weeks away and the two biggest races in the nation are ...

You have no idea, right?

OK, most of the voting is going to be about local government — mayors and council members and the like. But there are a couple of contests for governor, in Virginia and New Jersey.

It's Virginia that's obsessing the world. Or at least the world that's already terrified about what's going to happen in 2022 (Dems lose Congress?) or 2024 (Trump? Trump? Trummmp?)

The candidates are Democrat Terry McAuliffe, a former governor who left office after one term because Virginia is the only state in the union that makes governors do that. He's facing Republican Glenn Youngkin, a former business tycoon who's

chipped in at least \$16 million of his own money. Virginia has evolved into a Democratic state, but what if McAuliffe loses — or just squeaks in? What if the turnout is puny? Will the nation read this as a prelude to disaster for congressional candidates next year?

Democrats can't think of anything else, and if you've wound up on any party mailing lists — truly, it can happen to anyone — you may have been getting more letters about Terry McAuliffe than you got greetings on your last birthday.

"I'm flabbergasted, Gail ..." reads one of the many, many missives I received from him recently. "We've been sending you email after email about just how important this race is, but it's October, and it's looking like a tossup right now."

Given my profession, I have never made a contribution to a political campaign in my life, but this doesn't seem to have any effect on McAuliffe's expectations.

One of my all-time favorite donor requests came from Ellie Warner, McAuliffe's finance director:

"Gail, I'm freaking out right now! I meant to send this email earlier ... but I forgot to press send, and now, we're even

more behind on our fund-raising goal than we were before."

That is so 2021. If, God forbid, McAuliffe somehow loses the election, "I forgot to press send" is going down in modern political history.

New Jersey's race has also had its moments. Republicans are trying to beat Gov. Phil Murphy over the head with his 2019 remark that if you're a person whose only concern is tax rates, New Jersey is "probably not your state."

New Jersey is diverting but Murphy is expected to win handily. And the political world won't be all that impressed. It's Virginia that's mobilized a national get-out-the-money campaign.

"Gail, we don't have much time, so I'll make this quick," wrote the political consultant James Carville in a mass email about a "critical fund-raising deadline."

Carville, who recently referred to himself as "an email-signing slut," has reportedly sent out more than 40 pleas for donations to various campaigns in the past three months, one darkly demanding to know if the recipient wants "Democrats to lose every election from here to eternity."

Meanwhile, Donald Trump is, of course,

online constantly ("Did you see my RALLY in IOWA? It was INCREDIBLE"). He is supporting Youngkin, but not with nearly the enthusiasm he's dedicating to raising money for his own political action fund.

"President Trump specifically told us he wants this one-of-a-kind HAND-SIGNED football to go to YOU, Friend," says one missive, looking for a contribution for a chance to be in a drawing for said memento.

In the Virginia race, Youngkin, whose nickname is reportedly "Yunk," is delicately dancing around the Trump issue. It's tricky — if you want to be a winning Republican, you have to keep his fans happy while assuring the suburban moderates that you know Joe Biden was actually elected president.

McAuliffe's job is to make voters turn out, and one main strategy is to terrify them into action. ("I thought folks would be fired up to get out the vote, but at this point, it seems like enthusiasm is at an all-time low.")

Same thing goes for money.

Collins is a columnist for The New York Times.

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TAG SALES

Tag Sales & Flea Markets

BLOOMFIELD - Tag Sale 10/22 & 23,
70 Prospect St, 9 - 3.

CROMWELL - 8 Wightman Pl. Sat
10/23 9a-3p. **WHOLE HOUSE TAG
SALE!** Everything must go!
No reasonable offer refused. Furniture
(incl reclining lift chair & adjustable
bed), housewares, dinnerware,
bedding, jewelry & much more!

GLASTONBURY - Neighborhood Tag
Sale on Lenox Dr. Sat October 23rd
8am-2pm. Lots of great stuff!

GRANBY - 5 High Ridge Dr. Fri 10/22
& Sat 10/23 9am-5pm. Rain or
shine! Patio & Indoor Furniture, Yard
& Home Decor, Glassware, Dogs Beds
& Clothing, Power Washer, Vintage &
Modern Items! On st plng w/tid hand
icap & elderly plng in driveway.

MANCHESTER
10/23 9A-2P TAG SALE Fundraiser
to benefit Monkey's Pack Animal
Rescue! Stop by and check us out!
5 Kathleen Way

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Announcements

Lost/Found

IMPOUND - #12 German Shep, Neut
M, Call Avon ACO 860-409-4205.

IMPOUNDED - (Found) Calico cat
found on Parsonage St on 10/18
Please Call Rocky Hill ACO 860-
258-2765

PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

LEGAL NOTICE BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

Please be advised that a Special Meeting of legal voters of the Blue Hills Fire District will be held on November 3, 2021 at 6:00pm., at the Fire Headquarters: 1021 Blue Hills Ave., Bloomfield, CT.
The purpose of the meeting is as follows:
1. Discussion and Anticipated action in revising and updating the Commissioners' Rules and Procedures
2. Adjournment

Dated at Bloomfield, Connecticut
October 20, 2021
Barbara Taylor, District Clerk
Please send a receipt to the above address or to fax #860-242-8832.
If you have any questions or if there is a problem getting into the proper edition, please contact District Clerk, Barbara Taylor @ 860-243-8949 (Fire Headquarters). This legal notice should be mailed to the Blue Hills Fire District at the above address.
Sincerely,
Barbara Taylor
District Clerk
10/22/2021 7069115

Connecticut

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS

ORDER OF NOTICE

Notice Michael Unknown, father of child born on 2/24/10 to Lachinski P of parts unknown

A petition has been filed seeking:

Commitment of minor child(ren) of the above named or vesting of custody and care of said child(ren) of the above named in a lawful, private agency or a suitable and worthy person.

The petition, whereby the court's decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard 11/16/21 at 2:00 PM at Superior Court of Hartford Juvenile Matters 920 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Hearing on an Order of Temporary Custody will be heard on: 10/8/21 at 11:00 AM at Superior Court of Hartford Juvenile Matters 920 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in The Hartford Courant, a newspaper having circulation in the town/city of Hartford, CT

Judge: Hon. Linda Allard
Clerk: P Roman
Signed: 10/4/21

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.
10/22/21 7069386

TOWN OF GLASTONBURY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL LEASE ACCOUNTING & MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE (GASB 87 IMPLEMENTATION) RPLG-2022-15

**DUE DATE AND TIME: NOVEMBER 3, 2021
by 11:00 AM**

The Town of Glastonbury is requesting proposals from qualified firms to procure lease accounting and management software to assist the Town to implement GASB 87 and to capture all Town leases including real property, vehicles, and equipment. The software must provide all necessary disclosures, reports, journal entries, and outputs necessary to comply with legacy Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards and GASB 87 Leases.

Interested individuals and firms should obtain the complete RFP and related information from the Town's website at www.glastonburyct.gov. Responses to the Proposal must be submitted electronically no later than the time and date indicated above. LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Responses can be submitted at the following link: <https://app.negometrix.com/buyer/2832>, under the RFP title "RPLG-2022-15 - Lease Accounting & Management Software (GASB 87 Implementation)". Respondents will be required to create a profile before submitting their proposal. Step-by-step instructions on how to register as a vendor are available at this website:

<https://help.negometrix.com/en/support/solutions/articles/9000177626-register-on-negometrix4>

The Town reserves the right to waive informalities or reject any part of, or the entire proposal, when said action is deemed to be in the best interests of the Town.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women/Disadvantaged Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit a proposal.

Mary F. Visone
Purchasing Agent
10/22/2021 7068754

Real Estate

Real Estate For Sale

HEBRON - 255/257 Wall St. Duplex.
6BR/4BA. \$325k 860-647-0789

Steve Dale's
PET WORLD
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

LEGAL NOTICE BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

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1. Discussion and Anticipated action in revising and updating the Commissioners' Rules and Procedures
2. Adjournment

Dated at Bloomfield, Connecticut
October 20, 2021
Barbara Taylor, District Clerk
Please send a receipt to the above address or to fax #860-242-8832.
If you have any questions or if there is a problem getting into the proper edition, please contact District Clerk, Barbara Taylor @ 860-243-8949 (Fire Headquarters). This legal notice should be mailed to the Blue Hills Fire District at the above address.
Sincerely,
Barbara Taylor
District Clerk
10/22/2021 7069115

Connecticut

TOWN OF CROMWELL INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES LEGAL NOTICE

The Cromwell Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency will hold a Regular Meeting and a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm in Room 224 of the Cromwell Town Hall at 41 West Street on the following item:

1. Application #21-06: Request to conduct activities within the Inland Wetlands and Upland Review Area to allow for the construction of a road and warehouse at 94A and 102 Court Street, 76 and 80R Geer Street and 210 Shunpike Road. Scannell Properties #576, LLC is the Applicant and Dyls B. and Henry P.Jr. McIntyre, Gardner's Nurseries Inc. and Paramount Property LLC are the Owners.

Joseph Corlis
Chairman

Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this 20th day of October 2021
10/22/2021 7068417

NOTICE

U-Haul Moving and Storage Company of Capitol Ave, will sell household and personal items, contained in the following storage rooms due to unpaid storage fees on Tuesday, November 30th, 2021.

eugene jackson 11604
Amanda Alfinez 1914
Mable Hightower 1138
alvin hankerson 1976
Tyler Cook 1148
Matthew Tepas 3002
shatoya davis 1227
james bass 2310
Michael Franklin 2909
Garcia Brown 1980
Sharese Jefferson 1324
Reginald Spence 1244
shatoya davis 1227
Yimay Obis-Saldana 1220
Tyquan Miller 2013
quentin morrell 1500
Jennifer Dimambro 2014
Jose Ocasio 2010-11
JASMINE MOTON 1903
teresa alvarez 2409
Riley Mundie 2117
Mykah Coleman 1120
SAMUEL WOOTEN 1984
julia williams 2602
Julia Cosme 1990
Damien Matias 2910
Robert wedderburn 1924
Shercora Vaughn 2007
Michael Smith 2404
carrea moore 1223
Rashad Myers 1235
carmen sanchez 1701
Signe Martin 1108
johnston cox 1234
Stephanie Colon 1967
GREGORY THOMAS 1243
angel bonds 1036
Jennifer Nieves 2004
Christopher Wyatt 3000
Contents to be sold on the premises of 755 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06120 on Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 on Storageauctions.com and close out at 9:00AM.
Purchases to be paid for at the time of purchase, a \$100.00 deposit will be needed on EACH room purchased. U-HAUL reserves the right to bid or purchase any lot or space. Auction service provided by www.storageauctions.com.
Absolutely NO U-Haul Storage customers, or their family or friends on their behalf, whose units are listed in auction, may participate in any auction proceedings. You MUST contact Marketing Company Storage Manager, Joy Pace, for an appointment to purchase any units won in auction. All persons will be turned away without an appointment. Contact Joy Pace with any questions or concerns at Joy_Pace@uhaul.com
10/15, 10/22/2021 7060532

Antiques/Classics

JAGUAR XJS 1988 - \$4000 OBO.
Convertible, V12, Black, 126k miles,
860-306-4825

OLDSMOBILE TORONADO 1985 -
\$10700 Low miles; Must see! Call:
203-235-3304 or 203-427-3764

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PET WORLD
Sundays in Smarter Living

Auto / Truck Wanted

CASH PAID - for any Toyota, other makes. Any condition. Running or not, crashed okay. Will take other makes and models. 203-600-4431

Car Reviews

Saturdays in
MOTORING

Connecticut

NOTICE

The City of Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Regular Meeting Virtually on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 6 p.m. to hear the following public hearing items:

a. 535 Franklin Ave - Special Permit for Drinking Place. Owner & Applicant: Astrit Karamanaj. Application Received Date: September 14, 2021.

b. Text Amendment - Proposed Changes to Sections 3.2, 3.3, and 7.2 of the Zoning Regulations regarding Adult Use Cannabis in association with CT Senate Bill 1201, passed June 15, 2021. Applicant: City of Hartford.

Meeting information and documents are available online: <https://www.meetinginfo.org/meetings/1085>. Documents are available for inspection by appointment at 260 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. 10/15, 10/22/21 7063493

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STATE PROJECT NO. 132-0093N GILBANE JOB NO. J09088.000 ITB NO. 132-0093N-1

Gilbane Building Company is soliciting bids for the Pleasant Valley Elementary School Project. Sealed bids for the bid packages listed in the Gilbane Project Manual will be received by Gilbane Building Company at Gilbane Building Company's Glastonbury Office at 208 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT 06033 until the specified bid due date/time listed on 00 42 26 EX.A Proposal Form Exhibit A. Bids will be opened and read aloud shortly following the close of the bid period. Late bids or bids received at any other location will not be accepted. Detailed invitation to bid instructions and details may be found in the Gilbane Project Manual. Plans, specifications, and the Gilbane Project Manual may be downloaded free of charge from the below link: <https://gfs.gilbane.com/portal/s/095863349501475026385>

Gilbane Building Company is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/H/V.

Stephanie Greenman
Preconstruction Manager
Gilbane Building Company
10/22/2021 7068928

Notice of Environmental Remediation

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 22a-134a(l) and RCSA 22a-133k-1(d)(1), notice is hereby given that environmental remediation is planned for the property known as 151 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT (CT DEEP Rem ID #14439) owned by New Park Partners LLC, 2071 Flatbush Avenue, Suite 77, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Soils contaminated with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals associated with historical fill materials on the property will be remediated under the supervision of GeoQuest, Inc. of Bloomfield, CT, by: A) excavation and off-site disposal, and B) the use of an Engineered Control (EC) Variance that renders certain contaminated soils remaining at the site "inaccessible." An Environmental Use Restriction will prohibit residential use of the site and disturbance of the EC, and ensure continued operation and maintenance of the sub-slab depressurization system. Excavation is expected to begin during Spring 2022. Public comments may be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of this notice to: GeoQuest Inc., PO Box 85, Bloomfield, CT 06002, or via email at: jkaplan@geoquestinc.com. Telephone inquiries can be made to (860) 243-1757. 10/22/2021 7067569

Notice of Environmental Remediation

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 22a-134a(l) and RCSA 22a-133k-1(d)(1), notice is hereby given that environmental remediation is planned for the property known as 151 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT (CT DEEP Rem ID #14439) owned by New Park Partners LLC, 2071 Flatbush Avenue, Suite 77, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Soils contaminated with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals associated with historical fill materials on the property will be remediated under the supervision of GeoQuest, Inc. of Bloomfield, CT, by: A) excavation and off-site disposal, and B) the use of an Engineered Control (EC) Variance that renders certain contaminated soils remaining at the site "inaccessible." An Environmental Use Restriction will prohibit residential use of the site and disturbance of the EC, and ensure continued operation and maintenance of the sub-slab depressurization system. Excavation is expected to begin during Spring 2022. Public comments may be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of this notice to: GeoQuest Inc., PO Box 85, Bloomfield, CT 06002, or via email at: jkaplan@geoquestinc.com. Telephone inquiries can be made to (860) 243-1757. 10/22/2021 7067569

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

AMSTON Nancy J. Stowe	HEBRON Nancy J. Stowe
BLOOMFIELD Beverly Wood	NEWINGTON Nicholas G Celone
CLINTON Louis F. Santanelli	STORRS Leonard Todd
GLASTONBURY Nancy J. Stowe	WALLINGFORD Nicholas G Celone
HAMDEN Nicholas G Celone	WILLINGTON Leonard Todd
HARTFORD Nicholas G Celone Shawn Lang	OUT OF STATE Martha Lepow Slingerlands, NY

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Celone, Nicholas G



Nicola G. Celone (Nicholas, Nick, Nicky, Big C, and Dad) passed away on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at the age of 78, in his hometown of West Haven, CT at the VA Medical Center. On that day he joined his parents Louis A Celone and Rose Celone in heaven. Despite Nick's recent diagnosis of advanced pancreatic cancer, he was committed to living and fighting this disease with grit and grace. He was a fighter, hero, friend, loving partner, and devoted family patriarch.

Nick is survived by his older brother Louis A. Celone; his beloved daughter, son and their spouses: Sherlyn Celone-Arnold (Robert Arnold) and Nicholas (Nick) Celone (Shannon Helm), his beautiful baby granddaughter (Maye Rose Celone), his committed partner (Eileen Britton Morris), and his longtime friend and former wife (Sherrie Celone) as well as loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. Nick believed in family and the value of friendship. He loved and appreciated all who walked with him in this journey we call life.

Nick was easy going but lived life to the fullest. This included spending time with family and friends whether it be playing softball as a young adult, to playing cards on Friday nights, going on vacations with family, taking his nieces and nephews on day excursions to theme parks, to going to the casino or the horse races, to getting pizza in New Haven, and following UCONN Women's Basketball over the years! He was a lifelong athlete who demonstrated great sportsmanship in everything he did. His career as an athlete began by playing Football for West Haven High (1959 - 1962). Over the years, Nick enjoyed playing horseshoes with his cousins, to coaching little league softball, and being the "videographer" for his daughter's and son's sport teams during their teenage years. Nick was loved by all, and his smile and laughter were infectious! He was an amazing dancer, loved music from the 50s-60s era, and enjoyed watching good movies with his loved ones. He also had a passion for cars, specifically Corvettes and Lincolns; he cherished his '69 Stingray called "Goldie Locks."

Nick worked at Yale University for more than 40 years where he was a Supervisor of Custodial Services. He made and cherished many friendships there over the years and considered each one of them "family." As an army veteran, Nick found peace transitioning to the Community Living Center at the VA in West Haven, CT. The VA held a special place in his heart; it was also around the corner where he grew up in his family home on Homeside Avenue.

Family and friends are invited to attend services on Monday, October 25, 2021, at the Christ Bread of Life Parish, 321 Circular Ave, Hamden, CT. Calling hours will be from 11am - 12pm and a mass will follow at 12pm. A veteran's burial ceremony will be at 2pm at the Connecticut Veterans' Cemetery located at 317 Bow Lane, Middletown, CT. A celebration of life will be planned for a later date when family from out of town can join us.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Lepow, Martha (Lipson)

We celebrate the life of Martha Lipson Lepow, who died peacefully in her home in Slingerlands, New York on October 17, 2021 She was 94. Martha was born on March 28, 1927, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Harry Aaron Lipson and Anna Miller. Martha and her younger sister, Natalie, grew up in Cleveland Heights. Martha began playing the piano at the age of four and, through much practice, became an accomplished pianist. She enjoyed swimming and became a certified instructor and lifeguard. She was also an avid reader. After graduating from Cleveland Heights High School, Martha went on to Oberlin College, where she majored in pre-med. She pursued medical studies at Western Reserve Medical School in Cleveland and graduated with honors in 1952. She completed her residency at Babies and Children's Hospital and the Cleveland City Hospital. Participating in research and development for the Salk polio vaccine, and in the Sabin oral vaccine trials in infants and young children, she contributed to the work that made possible the worldwide eradication of polio. Dr. Lepow subsequently served as a professor of pediatrics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. During her 11 years in Connecticut, she participated in meningococcal vaccine trials, and in epidemiological study of pediatric lead poisoning. Her findings supported legislation that sharply ameliorated the problem of airborne lead. In 1978, Dr. Lepow and her late husband were recruited to Albany, New York, where they settled with their family. A national expert on childhood immunizations, Dr. Lepow came to Albany Medical College as head of the division of pediatric infectious disease. During her service at the medical center, she distinguished herself as an outstanding clinician and physician leader, a dedicated researcher, and an exemplary mentor to countless medical students and residents, as well as other faculty members and department chairs. Dr. Lepow served as chairperson, acting chair, and vice chair of the department of pediatrics, and received numerous awards and recognitions. One of the longest-serving and most esteemed physicians at Albany Medical Center, she helped to make the Capital Region a healthier and more compassionate place to live. Retiring at the age of 92, "Dr. Marty" became an emeritus professor, continuing to serve the medical center remotely and maintaining some of her academic activities.

A longtime member of Congregation Beth Emeth, a Reform synagogue in Albany, Martha enjoyed participating in the congregation's musical programs, as well as other musical ensembles in the community. Through her music, her love, her intelligence, and her extraordinary gift for celebrating life, she continually enriched the worlds of her family and friends. Martha is predeceased by her husband of 27 years, Irwin Lepow, PhD, MD. She is survived by a loving extended family including her daughter, Laurie, her sons, David and Daniel, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at Congregation Beth Emeth, 100 Academy Road Albany, NY on Friday, December 3, 2021 at 1:00pm. In lieu of flowers, please direct gifts to Congregation Beth Emeth, The Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center. To leave a condolence message for the family, please visit levinememorialchapel.com

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OBITUARIES

Lang, Shawn

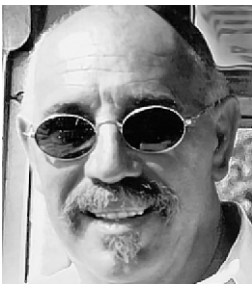


Shawn Lang, 65, of Hartford, CT, a proud mother, passionate advocate for justice, and lover of friends, music and Boston sports teams, passed away unexpectedly on October 17, 2021. She was born in Norfolk, MA, on February 5, 1956, the daughter of Herbie and Pat (Cashen) Lang. Shawn spent her entire career as an advocate for persons living with HIV and AIDS, the LGBTQ community, as well as those with opioid addictions, survivors of domestic violence, and those experiencing housing insecurity. As a staff person and volunteer, she worked tirelessly for programs, policies, and state and federal legislation that provided services and protections for persons in need. For the past thirty years Shawn worked as the Deputy Director of Advancing CT Together (ACT). She was a board member of the National AIDS Housing Coalition and the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University. She sat on the CT Alcohol and Drug Policy Council and founded the Statewide Opiate Overdose Prevention Workgroup. In 2017, Shawn was honored at the White House as a Champion of Change for Advancing Prevention, Treatment and Recovery. When she wasn't advocating in the halls of the State Capitol and Congress, Shawn could be found socializing with family and her many friends, playing guitar on First Friday music nights, cheering for her Red Sox, Celtics, Patriots and Huskies, and vacationing in P-Town. But her dedication to the causes of justice and equality was only exceeded by her boundless dedication to her son, Corbett Lang, of Hartford, CT. He brought her the greatest of love, joy and pride, and Shawn treasured their time together.

In addition to her son, Corbett, of Hartford, CT, Shawn is survived by her sisters Heidi Cronin and her husband Mike of Norfolk MA, Tricia Barry and her husband Charles of Wrentham, MA, Gretchen Lang of Margate, FL, and her brother Tiger Lang of Bennington, VT, and many nieces and nephews. Shawn's family is deeply and forever grateful to Shawn's many friends, co-workers and fellow advocates who provided her with love and support during her remarkable and impactful life, and who shared her commitment to justice and equality. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, October 24, 2021 at the Pond House, 1555 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT. Calling hours are from 5:30 to 9:00pm, including a ceremony from 6:30 to 7:15pm. Masks are required per town regulations and the wishes of Shawn who dedicated her life's work to public health. Vaccinations encouraged. Shawn Lang-approved attire welcome - i.e. jeans, khaki shorts, political t-shirts. Donations in memory of Shawn and her work may be sent to Advancing CT Together at 110 Bartholomew Avenue, Suite 3050, Hartford, CT 06106 (info@act-ct.org).

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Santanelli, Louis Frank



Louis Frank Santanelli September 8th 1942 -August 28 2021 Passed away suddenly at home. He survived by his sister Connie Angelini Reutenauer of Lady lakes Florida, His family William Angelini and Joan Angelini, Thomas Angelini and Ilda Carrapico ,Paul Angelini Grand Nieces and Nephews Sara Angelini, Christopher Angelini, Julia Angelini, Lulu Angelini. Louis was a 50 Year Business owner of New Design Hair Salon in West Hartford Ct. Louis was a very generous person to his family and friends. Louis enjoyed staying ahead of the latest in Hair and Beauty Design, Fashion, and enjoyed Traveling, Cooking, and Entertaining at his Beach House with the company of his Cat Romeo. He will be Greatly missed by his family and friends. Louis was a Veteran of the Us Army with an Honorable Discharge There will be a private Celebration of Life with his family.

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Stowe, Nancy J.(Choiniere)



Nancy Stowe, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, passed away Wednesday October 20, 2021, at her home at the age of 81. She was the loving wife of 49 years of the late Peter Stowe until his death in 2016. She was born on June 25, 1940, to the late Edgar and Lillian (Cyr) Choiniere. She grew up and attended school in Worcester, Massachusetts. She moved to Glastonbury in 1970, where she and Peter raised their family. Nancy spent her career in advertising at various newspapers, including The Hartford Courant, Journal Inquirer, and Worcester Telegram. She enjoyed bowling, going to the casino, summer vacations with her family on Cape Cod, going to tag sales, and spending time with her grandchildren. She was an avid animal lover and made people laugh with her dry sense of humor. Nancy is survived by her four children: David Stowe and his former spouse Tessa of Glastonbury, Michael Stowe of Glastonbury, Lisa Nelson and her husband Steven of Hebron, and Matthew Stowe and his partner Christopher Balerna of Boston, and three grandchildren Kyle, Ryan, and Joshua Nelson of Hebron. She is also survived by her brother, Robert Choiniere and wife Maurita "Bunny" of Oxford, Massachusetts, and predeceased by brothers Edgar Choiniere, Norman Choiniere, and Paul Choiniere. A graveside service will be held on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 11:00 am at Green Cemetery, 99 Hubbard St., Glastonbury. Friends may call on Sunday, October 24, 2021 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com

MULRYAN
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Todd, Leonard



Leonard "Lenny" E. Todd, 97, of Storrs, CT, passed away on Tuesday, October 19, 2021. He was born in Windham, CT, and resided in Willington for over 70 years before moving to Storrs. He was the son of the late Alexander and Ethel (Kenfield) Todd. Lenny served our country in the United States Army during World War II. He began his career as a maintenance worker for the State of Connecticut, starting at UCONN and then transferring to the Department of Transportation. After retirement, he worked for more than a decade at the Center School in Willington as a custodian. Lenny was a community volunteer having been active in the local scouting program as well as serving as Third Selectman in Willington. He was a parishioner of the former St. Jude Church, and life member of V.F.W. Post No. 938. Lenny is survived by his beloved wife of 75 years, Virginia (LaVecchia) Todd; two sons, Leonard E. Todd, Jr. and his wife Luanne of Golden, CO, and Richard M. Todd and his wife Susanna of Ellington, CT; two grandchildren, Christopher Todd and his wife Melissa of Ellington, CT, and Aimee Granger and her husband Gary of Niantic, CT; three great grandsons, Cooper and Parker Todd, and Kaleb Granger; and several nieces and nephews. Lenny cherished the numerous friendships he created in his life. He was predeceased by his two brothers, Stanley and Charles Todd. The family thanks Hartford Healthcare Hospice and the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation for their compassionate care for Lenny and the family. A calling hour will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 from 10-11 A.M., with a funeral service to take place at 11 A.M., at Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., 51 East Main St., Stafford Springs, CT. Due to COVID-19 the family is encouraging that masks be worn. Burial with Military Honors will follow in Willington Hill Cemetery, Willington, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com

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Wood, Beverly (Baird)

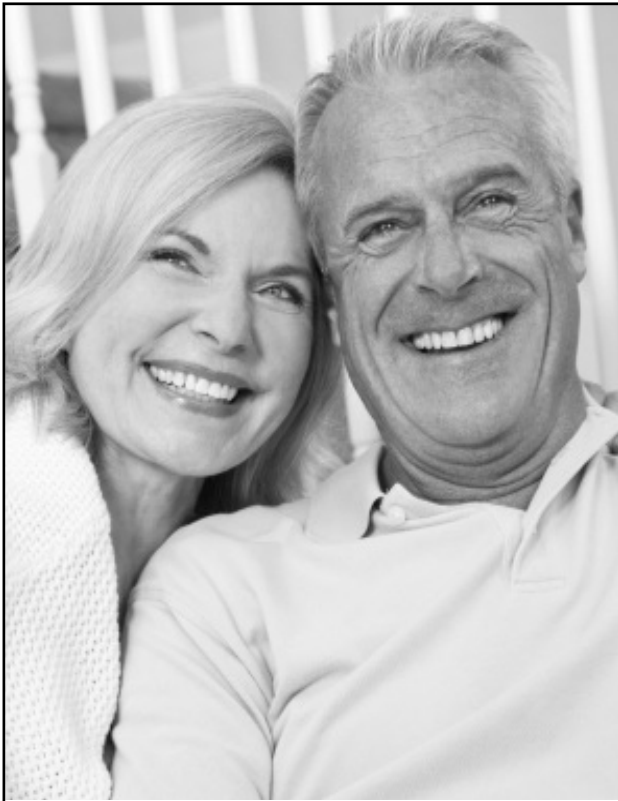


Beverly Baird Wood died on October 11, 2021 in Bloomfield, CT. Born in Chicago, IL on February 11, 1928, to Frederick and Ruth (Llewellyn) Baird. Beverly graduated from Smith College in 1949. She married Robert D. Wood in 1950. In 1970, they moved to Stowe, VT where Beverly lived for 37 years. She summered in Chippewa Bay, NY, in the 1000 Islands. Beverly is survived by her four children: Sandra Wood Forand (Bernie Forand) Hartford, CT; Richard Wood (Marianne) Pottstown, PA; Susan Wood (David Duff) Macomb, NY; Stuart Wood, Charlottesville, VA; eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. There will be a memorial by Zoom on December 12 at 4 pm. Please contact BBWmemorial@gmail.com to obtain the link. Beverly requested that memorial contributions go to the Thousand Islands Land Trust, PO Box 238, Clayton, NY 13624 - www.TILandTrust.org. For a full obituary, please visit abbeycremation.com.

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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of
MARY ELLEN (VECCHIOLLA) SCHIAVONE
July 31, 1947 - October 22, 2019
It's been two years since you left us, our hearts are broken.
We miss and love you deeply.
Forever in our hearts.
Love, Dan and Brett



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ELECTION 2021

State relaxes absentee voting rules

For November elections, every voter will again have access due to COVID-19 safety concerns

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror

Every Connecticut voter will be able to vote by absentee ballot next month, a common-enough occurrence nationally but a rarity here due to some of the nation's most restrictive laws on absentee voting. A temporary law passed by Democrats in May will give every voter access to absentee ballots due to COVID-19 for the second consecutive year — and most likely for the last time unless the Connecticut Constitution is amended.

“I’m happy to say that due to the work of the legislature and the governor, we are able again in 2021 to use an absentee ballot — that is to say that any voter can use an absentee ballot in 2021,” Secretary of the State Denise Merrill said Tuesday. The law allows anyone concerned about contracting COVID-19 to vote by absentee, the same option available in 2020. Gov. Ned Lamont joined Merrill and others at a press conference to promote the coming municipal elections, which generate lower turnout than presidential and

statewide contests in even-numbered years. A subtext was the long campaign to allow no-excuse absentee voting, favored by Democratic lawmakers and opposed by most Republicans. The legislature approved a referendum on a constitutional amendment to allow no-excuse absentee voting, but Republican opposition kept the vote shy of the supermajority necessary to put it on the 2022 ballot. The Connecticut Constitution empowers the General Assembly to set by law means to vote in cases of “absence from the city or town of which they are inhabitants or

Turn to Election, Page 2



Todd Matt, business operations manager of West Hartford, places his ballot in the ballot box outside West Hartford Town Hall on Connecticut's primary election day Aug. 11, 2020. COURANT FILE PHOTO



MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

CALLING FOR ACTION

James Flores, left, and Ephraim Adamz demonstrate with a Black Lives Matter group outside East Catholic High School in Manchester on Thursday, saying that the school has not adequately addressed a racial incident that was reported after a recent football game. A Montville cheerleader said she was subjected to racial slurs from East Catholic players after a game Sept. 24 in Manchester.

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Hospital cases lowest since early August

Weekly positivity dips slightly, with 5 counties in 'high' transmission

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

Connecticut reported its lowest number of COVID-19 hospitalizations since early August on Thursday, as well as a slight dip in its weekly positivity rate. The metrics are a potentially promising sign, though the state's COVID-19 numbers have been uneven recently, with both increases and decreases in COVID-19 positivity rate and

hospitalizations. Experts have warned that the virus could spike at the end of this year, though that surge has not yet emerged. **Cases and positivity rate:** On Thursday, Connecticut reported 410 COVID-19 cases out of 24,611 tests administered, for a daily test positivity rate of 1.67%. The state's weekly positivity rate now stands at 1.98%, a decline from the 2.08% weekly positivity rate reported on Wednesday. As of Thursday, five Connecticut counties — Hartford, Litchfield, New London, Tolland and Windham counties — were experiencing “high” levels of COVID-

19 transmission as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, while Connecticut's remaining three counties were experiencing “substantial” levels of COVID-19 transmission. Forty Connecticut towns and cities currently qualify for the state's “red alert” designation, which is triggered when a municipality averages 15 or more daily COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents. **Hospitalizations:** As of Thursday, there were 224 people in Connecticut hospitalized with COVID-19, a decrease of two people since Wednesday. Hospi-

talizations are now at the lowest level they have been since Aug. 10. Connecticut has seen notable declines in hospitalizations this week, including a 22-person drop reported Wednesday — the most significant decline the state has seen in weeks. According to state data released Thursday, 78.1% of those hospitalized with COVID-19 in Connecticut are not fully vaccinated. Hospital officials say that many vaccinated people hospitalized with the disease were admitted for other reasons and do not have severe symptoms.

Turn to Virus, Page 2

ELECTION 2021

Mayoral hopefuls clash on housing

Valentine, Simmons make bid for Stamford top job in final debate

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

DARIEN — Former baseball manager Bobby Valentine and state Rep. Caroline Simmons clashed Thursday in their increasingly bitter battle to become Stamford's next mayor. In their final debate before the Nov. 2 vote, the candidates battled over affordable housing in the fast-growing community that has become the state's second-largest city. In front of about 200 business and civic leaders at a catering hall on the Darien-Stamford border, Valentine was asked about a recent video that has generated controversy because Valentine said that “if you're not owning, you're not caring.” The comments have set off a pitched back-and-forth between the candidates regarding renters and homeowners. “That was a 28-second clip that was taken out of context,” Valentine said, adding that other clips had been similarly shortened during his long baseball career. “I was just trying to support the idea that we need more housing in our community that people can own. ... We owe a lot to the development of the apartment complexes that have been built and all of the residents that live in them. But there's a great desire for home, condominium and town home ownership. ... That 28 seconds regrettably got out there.” But Simmons countered that the clip was reflective of Valentine's views about housing. “My opponent has consistently said that if you don't own in this city that you don't care about our

Turn to Mayor, Page 2

Death row inmate spared execution

Azibo Aquart sentenced instead to life in prison for horrifying 2005 triple murder in Bridgeport

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

The last federal criminal defendant who had been facing execution for a crime in Connecticut was resented to life in prison Thursday in federal court for a horrific, triple murder in Bridgeport 16 years ago. Azibo Aquart, now 40 years old, was 23 in 2005 when he and others in his drug crew kidnapped three people he considered rivals, wrapped them in duct tape with only their eyes and noses uncovered and beat them to death with baseball bats. He was convicted in 2011 of more than a half dozen murder, racketeering and drug crimes.

He was sentenced to death a year later and imprisoned on death row at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana. A federal appeals court in New York reversed the death sentence in 2018 finding that prosecutors had improperly questioned an FBI agent during the trial. The appeals court ordered Aquart resented. After federal prosecutors decided against pursuing a second death sentence, U.S. Judge Janet Bond Arterton imposed the only alternative under the law, which is life in prison. Aquart became the first federal criminal defendant in Connecticut to get a death sentence after the federal government reinstated capital punishment in

1988. Former President Donald Trump resumed federal executions in 2020 after a 17-year hiatus. Federal officials said there may be two or three pending federal cases in Connecticut that are death penalty eligible, but a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office said death sentences are not being pursued in any of them. Connecticut abolished capital punishment for state crimes in 2015 and closed down the state's death row. Federal prosecutor Elena Lalli Coronado told Arterton that Aquart's victims died a “brutal, pointless and agonizing death,” and that at one point during the baseball bat murders, he joked to one of his accomplices, “Yo, come and get you some.”

Turn to Aquart, Page 2

State sees 9th straight monthly jobs increase

4,700 added as unemployment rate falls to 6.8%

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Connecticut employers added 4,700 jobs in September, posting the ninth consecutive monthly gain as the labor force recovers from the pandemic, the state Department of Labor reported Thursday. The unemployment rate fell 0.4%, to 6.8%, still substantially higher than the U.S. rate of 4.8%. Interim labor Commissioner Dante Bartolomeo credited Connecticut's strong vaccination rate for helping restore business activity. Weekly filings for unemployment compensation that topped 400,000 during the worst of the pandemic are 52,000 now,

she said. David Lehman, state commissioner of economic development, said Connecticut's job growth has been stronger than following the Great Recession of 2008 to 2009. He said the decision by Gov. Ned Lamont to keep manufacturing businesses open and authorizing retail and restaurant curbside pickup helped speed economic growth. “It's easier to shut something down than start it back up,” he said in an interview. “The state was one of the last to recover. Now we're considerably better than our neighbors.”

Turn to Jobs, Page 2

CONNECTICUT

‘Anastasia’ returns to its roots with a new cast, some tweaks

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

The musical “Anastasia” is about a purported Russian princess who makes an arduous journey to Paris from St. Petersburg in the late 1920s. In the last five years, the show itself has been around the country and the world. The place it has visited most often is Connecticut.

“Anastasia — The New Broadway Musical” (as it is still subtitled) was at the Palace Theater in Waterbury through Thursday, then heads to the Shubert in New Haven, where it will spend the weekend, Oct. 22-24. The “split week” booking is part of a new joint strategy between the Palace and the Shubert to bring more Broadway tours affordably to Connecticut.

Connecticut is where the “Anastasia” musical first started, with its world premiere at Hartford Stage in May of 2016. A Broadway deal was already in the works, and the

IF YOU GO: “Anastasia” is at the Shubert, College St., New Haven, shubert.com, with performances on Oct. 22 at 8 p.m., Oct. 23 at 2 and 8 p.m. and Oct. 24 at noon and 5:30 p.m. \$44 to \$126.

show opened in New York City a year later with the same main cast as in Hartford. After a Broadway run of two years, “Anastasia” returned to Hartford on its first national tour, at The Bushnell with a new cast. That first tour, which had a cast of Equity union performers, began in 2018 and had to stop in early 2020 when COVID began to close theaters. A non-Equity tour typically follows an Equity tour, and that’s what’s happening now even though the Equity tour didn’t complete all its dates.

In fact, this is the first week of the tour, meaning that Connecticut audiences are the first to see the new cast — basically the second time “Anastasia” has had a

premiere in the state.

The show stars Kyla Stone as Anya, who may be the missing Anastasia; Sam McLellan as Dmitry, the young con artist who becomes Anya’s love interest; Brandon Delgado as Gleb, the Bolshevik general who doggedly pursues Anya; Gerri Weagraff as Anastasia’s grandmother the Dowager Empress; Bryan Seastrom as the goofy Vlad, Dmitry’s mentor in crime; and Madeleine Raube as Countess Lily, who has a big number or two when the action moves to Paris in the show’s second half.

Another Connecticut connection: Taya Diggs, one of the two girls who alternate in the role of the young Anastasia in the show’s opening scene, hails from North Haven. The other “Little Anastasia” is Marley Sophia.

Besides the cast, the show has changed quite a bit since it was originally seen in Hartford. The Broadway rendition rethought the big “Paris Holds the Key to



The national tour of “Anastasia,” which premiered at Hartford Stage, is opening this week at two Connecticut theaters. **NETWORKS/COURTESY**

Your Heart” number that kicks off Act Two, chose “The Neva Flows” instead of “A Crowd of Thousands” to end Act One, changed the order of some of the other songs and dropped some numbers entirely. To tour, “Anastasia” lost its multi-turntable stage operation, changing how the showstopping train ride adventure is staged. The scenic design is still defined by gigantic projections as backdrops.

The director of every production of “Anastasia so far — including this tour, the previous tour, the Broadway and Hartford produc-

tions as well as in Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and elsewhere — is Darko Tresnjak, who was the artistic director of Hartford Stage from 2011 to 2019. “Anastasia” was the second musical Tresnjak sent from Hartford to Broadway, following “The Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder,” which won the Tony Award for Best Musical in 2014. Tresnjak did other musicals at Hartford Stage as well: “Kiss Me, Kate” and “The Flamingo Kid.”

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Obama endorses Simmons for Stamford mayor

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

STAMFORD — President Barack Obama has endorsed Democrat Caroline Simmons in the battle for Stamford mayor.

The endorsement Thursday comes about 12 days before Election Day in an increasingly bitter contest against former New York Mets and Boston Red Sox baseball manager Bobby Valentine. Valentine, 71, is running as an unaffiliated candidate, while Simmons defeated two-term incumbent Democratic Mayor David Martin in a September primary.

“Caroline Simmons knows what

it takes to create real change, and she’ll help make Stamford an even better place for families and businesses,” Obama was quoted as saying in a statement from the Simmons campaign. “That’s why I’m endorsing her for mayor.”

Simmons, 35, initially worked on Obama’s presidential campaign as an unpaid intern at the age of 22. She eventually earned a paid position and moved on to a position in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security during the Obama administration.

She served there for 4 ½ years in a variety of positions, including as a special assistant in the Office of the Secretary, a policy analyst

for the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia, and as a special projects director in the counterterrorism coordinator’s office.

Simmons helped support the department’s programs, including making multiple trips to Kabul, Afghanistan.

She previously served as an intern at the U.S. Department of State on issues regarding the Middle East.

“President Obama inspired a generation of leaders to serve their country and reach for a better America,” Simmons said. “His call for hope and change inspired me to serve my country, and I am ready to take the next step in that

mission by stepping up to lead our great city of Stamford.”

She added, “I will always strive to be honest, approachable, and transparent with all of my colleagues and constituents — living the values I learned from President Obama.”

Regarding endorsements, the mayoral candidates have been split. The police union has endorsed Valentine, while the firefighters’ union has endorsed Simmons. Valentine also received the endorsement from the teachers’ union.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com

Mayor

from Page 1

city,” Simmons said. “I think that’s extremely offensive to the 50% of our city that is renting. Most of them can’t afford to own homes. ... Why would we demonize half of our population that can’t afford to [own]? It’s insulting to suggest that they don’t care about our city.”

The candidates have clashed for weeks in a generational battle between a 35-year-old Democratic woman and a 71-year-old baseball celebrity. The candidates have accused each other of being negative — with Simmons implying that Valentine is too old and from the “old boys’ network” as she represents the thousands of newcomers in the fast-growing city that is now bigger than Hartford and New Haven.

Despite the clashes, the candidates largely agree on the problems facing the city that need to be solved. Those include improving the public schools, attracting businesses, improving transportation, creating jobs, holding the line on taxes and removing mold from old school buildings.

Compared to previous debates, Simmons said Thursday’s battle was less contentious in some ways because of the short-answer format and multiple breaks for television commercials because the debate was taped for later broadcast on News12, a major local cable station.

Another issue between the candidates has been how long they have lived in Stamford. Simmons, a Greenwich native, moved to the city eight years ago, while Valentine often mentions that his family has been in the city for more than a century.

“My grandparents came here 110 years ago,” Valentine said, adding that his Italian-speaking grandmother and other ancestors did not speak English.



State Rep. Caroline Simmons, a Stamford Democrat, and former New York Mets manager Bobby Valentine face off at Thursday’s Stamford mayoral debate. **MARY ALTAFER/AP**

Valentine said he will be in Stamford for the long haul.

“I’m not going to Hartford from here, and I’m not going to D.C. from here,” he said. “I’m staying here until the end.”

Simmons said, “I couldn’t be more proud to be raising my two sons in Stamford. That’s why I’m in this race.”

The Simmons campaign countered Valentine’s talking points in a mailer recently saying, “Caroline will be the mayor who represents all of Stamford and will work to build a more inclusive, equitable, and thriving city — not just for the people who own a home or were born here — but for everyone,” the campaign said in a fundraising email to supporters. “Caroline is the only candidate who will be ready on day 1 to fix our infrastructure and invest in our schools and small businesses, reduce racial inequities, and work with the Stamford delegation to secure federal and state funding for our city.”

Concerning diversity, Valentine said that his Cabinet would be as diverse as the transition team that he has already announced.

“I’ve lived diversity through my entire life. I’ve lived in Japan,” he said. “I’ve had teams with people from all over the country, speaking different languages.”

Simmons said that Stamford residents speak 65 different languages, adding that she would work to hire more women in city government.

The city is politically split in many ways as reflected by the police union and teachers’ union endorsing Valentine, while the firefighters’ union has endorsed Simmons.

In a city where Democrats hold the advantage in voter registration, Democrats are trying to paint Valentine as politically inexperienced and too conservative. Democrats currently have about 31,000 registered voters, compared to 27,000 unaffiliated voters and only 13,000 registered Republicans.

A longtime Republican, Valentine is running as an unaffiliated candidate and refuses to be pigeonholed politically. He volunteers that the first candidate he ever voted for was liberal icon George McGovern.

A key wild card is how thousands of newcomers who have moved into Stamford will vote — or whether they will vote at all. Many of them are young, single professionals who have no immediate stake in the city’s public schools.

Both construction and population are exploding in Stamford, which is Connecticut’s fastest-growing city with more than 135,000 residents — larger than New Haven and Hartford. Once a commuter town with fewer than 75,000 residents when Valentine was born in 1950, Stamford has surpassed Hartford, the capital city that had peaked with 177,000 residents in 1950.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com.

Jobs

from Page 1

Data from the state Department of Economic and Community show the rebound in jobs in Connecticut was stronger than in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island.

The Labor Department said professional and technical services, education, retail trade and hotels and restaurants have recovered more than 75% of the jobs lost during the shutdown. Construction has regained all of the jobs that vanished during the pandemic. The industry posted 59,300 jobs, the same number as in February 2020 before COVID-19 began to take its toll.

However, manufacturing jobs

— a key segment in Connecticut’s labor force — are down nearly 5% from their peak in February 2020, posting 153,000, off from 160,100 20 months ago.

Economist Donald Klepper-Smith said Connecticut has more work to do to reach the level of jobs before the start of the Great Recession in 2008. While jobs now are off 5% from February 2020 immediately before the pandemic, employment is down by 111,200 jobs, or nearly 6.5%, since March 2008.

“Connecticut will not be seeing its former employment peak ... anytime soon despite the recent ‘bounce-back’ in jobs,” Klepper-Smith said in an email.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Virus

from Page 1

Deaths: Connecticut reported 14 COVID-19 deaths in the past week on Thursday, bringing its total number of deaths related to COVID-19 during the pandemic to 8,721. In comparison to the past four weeks, during which the state recorded an average of about 42 deaths per week, this week’s data reflected a notable decline.

The United States has now recorded 731,904 COVID-19 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations: As of Thursday, 78% of all Connecticut residents

and 89.5% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 70.1% of all residents and 80.5% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

The state has administered 145,543 booster shots and third doses of the COVID-19 vaccine since Aug. 13, according to Department of Public Health spokesperson Chris Boyle.

According to state data, being unvaccinated currently increases a person’s chances of being infected with COVID-19 by a factor of four, of being hospitalized with COVID-19 by a factor of 31 and of dying from COVID-19 by a factor of 23.

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.

Election

from Page 1

because of sickness, or physical disability or because the tenets of their religion forbid secular activity.”

Until the temporary measures passed in response to COVID, state law defined “sickness” as a voter’s sickness, not a general concern about the risk of contracting a virus during a pandemic or the need to stay at home and care for a sick family member.

“It’s really extraordinary when you think about the fact that in 2020, about 650,000 people in Connecticut voted by absentee ballot,” Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said. “When they cast their vote, they cast their vote for whichever candidates they preferred. But I think they also cast their vote for no-excuse absentee balloting. They cast their vote for a more convenient way to express your voice in elections.”

President Donald J. Trump made absentee voting synonymous with fraud for many of his supporters, who have accepted his baseless assertion that President Joe Biden’s victory last year was due to fraud.

As of Tuesday, there were 2,256,052 voters registered in Connecticut, down from 2,309,576 from a year ago. The voter rolls typically shrink in odd-numbered years, when only municipal offices are on the ballot.

Democrats outnumber Republicans, 825,038 to 463,393, but the largest voting bloc is 928,981 unaffiliated voters.

The latest numbers reflect a 20-year trend favoring Democrats in Connecticut. Since 2001, Democratic registration has increased by nearly 200,000, compared to little more than 20,000 for Republicans.

Mark Pazniokas is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (ctmirror.org). Copyright 2021 © The Connecticut Mirror.

Aquart

from Page 1

Relatives of Aquart’s victims told Arterton of grand children and a great grandchild who are growing up without having known their murdered grandparents or great grandparents. They all asked Arterton to put an end to a seemingly interminable prosecution that one said has summoned them back to court repeatedly to relieve their losses through more “hearings, pleadings and argument.”

Aquart’s lawyers were building the legal foundation for another return to court to argue for a further sentence reduction on compassionate grounds because of what they called his exemplary record of self-improvement while confined under harsh death row conditions.

They said Aquart had a terrifying childhood, was physically and sexually abused as a child and was homeless on the streets of Bridgeport by age 12. He was so traumatized by the conditions he encountered when arriving on death row that he became incapable of speech, his lawyers said.

Arterton said Aquart’s resentencing “shines a light on the terrifying and arbitrary nature of life on death row and the toll that it takes, nearly driving Mr. Aquart to madness.”

CONNECTICUT

ELECTION 2021

Five vying for Hartford school board

African American Alliance set to hold candidate forum next weekend at Hartford Public Library

By Rebecca Lurye
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — An incumbent Hartford school board member and four other candidates are running for four open seats in next month's election.

Board of Education vice chair Shontá Browdy, a Working Families Party representative with two children in the district, is running for her second term in the Nov. 2 election. Browdy had been a Hartford parent advocate and substitute

teacher before her election in 2017.

On the city Democrats' slate are Francoise C. Deristel-Leger, a Montessori teacher in Norwalk; Tyrone V. Walker, a former quality manager at Pratt & Whitney; and Yahaira Escribano, a Foodshare program coordinator who was a 2019 member of the Obama Foundation's Community Leadership Corps in Hartford. Deristel-Leger and Walker are both members of the Hartford Democratic Town Committee.

Bryan Gilbert Callender Jr.,

a Republican, will also appear on the ballot. He is an outreach coordinator at Goodwin University Magnet School and founder and president of The War is on Foundation, a nonprofit promoting youth development in urban communities.

Under minority representation rules, Democrats cannot win more than three of the board's elected seats. Overall, nine people serve on the volunteer panel that has a voice on school policy, district leadership and the direction of Hartford's education reform efforts. Five seats are appointed by the mayor, and four are elected to four-year terms.

The Greater Hartford African

American Alliance is holding a candidate forum on Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hartford Public Library. The Hartford Votes-Hartford Vota Coalition has also interviewed some of the candidates and posted the videos to YouTube.

Browdy is the only elected member seeking to retain her seat.

Board chair Ayesha Clarke will be leaving after her first term, Craig Stallings after his second. Both interviewed with the Democratic Town Committee but did not receive the party's endorsement.

A fourth at-large elected position has been vacant since Juan Hernandez in August 2020.

Residents can vote for up to three

candidates in next month's election.

The top four vote-getters will join the five appointed members of the board: second vice chair Kim Oliver, director of Hartford's Department of Families, Children, Youth and Recreation; Dr. James Shmerling, president and CEO of Connecticut Children's Medical Center; Yvette Bello, a Realtor and senior officer for the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; Rev. A.J. Johnson, a community activist and pastor at Urban Hope Refuge Church; and Philip Rigueur, a sales executive for CVS Health/Aetna.

Rebecca Lurye can be reached at rlurye@courant.com.



State authorities say pit bulls used in a dog fighting ring were kept in unsanitary conditions in this Orange backyard. STATE OF CONNECTICUT/COURTESY

AG seeking custody of seized dogs

Seven pit bulls found in probe of illegal fighting ring: 'No animal should ever be treated this way'

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

Connecticut's attorney general is moving for state custody of scarred, diseased and malnourished pit bulls seized during an interstate investigation of dog fighting.

State and municipal police found seven pit bulls suffering from injuries and infections in an Orange backyard on Oct. 5. That search followed a related seizure of eight dogs in late July in Meriden, authorities said.

Seized evidence from both sites included a list of 80 dogs involved in the fighting ring, whips, shock collars and blood- and fur-covered "break sticks" used to separate fighting dogs, Connecticut authorities said. State police said they are working with police

in Suffolk County, New York, to break up the criminal ring.

"Dog fighting is cruel and illegal," Attorney General William Tong said Thursday. "No animal should ever be treated this way."

The dogs seized at 968 Grassy Hill Road in Orange were kept chained inside unsanitary cages in the weed-choked backyard of the .75-acre property, officials said. Some of the dogs were shaking inside their filthy cages when police found them, officials said. Tong secured an order granting the state Department of Agriculture temporary care and custody.

The state seeks permanent custody of the dogs, ages 2-8, named Vera, Angie, Zebra, Sypher, Mugshot, Morris and Lucy. The animals were suffering from ear and eye infections and malnutrition and had scars likely caused

by bite wounds, authorities said. They were being cared for at the Milford Animal Shelter. State police said they expect to file animal cruelty charges.

Police also found dog fighting guides and magazines, breeder information, a skin stapler and veterinary medicine, authorities said. The owner of the property and the unlicensed dogs was identified in the custody petition as Nathaniel Sebastian Martinez.

The raid in Orange was related to another search and seizure on July 31 at 109 Britannia Street in Meriden, where police seized eight pit bulls found in cages in a backyard. Police also found a homemade fighting ring on that property. Other evidence seized included a text message chain with videos of dog and cock fighting operations, which led police to the Orange property, officials said.

Tong also is seeking state custody of the Meriden dogs, which also were suffering from

injuries related to fighting and were being cared for at the Milford Animal Shelter.

Felony arrest warrants were issued for three Connecticut men in connection with the dog fighting ring. Arrested on Sept. 27 by state police, the Bridgeport police gang unit and Meriden police were Getulio Vargas Macedo, 46, of 110 Edna Avenue, Bridgeport, Jose Rivera, 42, of 185 Lydale Place, Meriden, and Nelson Rivera, 44, of 61 Quarry Lane, #4, Meriden. All were charged with being fugitives from justice, state police said.

"Dog fighting is a heinous crime that we all take very seriously," state Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt said. "Anyone who suspects dog fighting is happening should report it to the proper authorities."

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Flying south for the winter?

Avelo Airlines adds 6th destination to Florida at Tweed-New Haven

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

Avelo Airlines, the fledgling air carrier that is making Tweed-New Haven Airport its first East Coast hub, is adding Sarasota as a sixth, nonstop destination to Florida as the airline prepares to launch its first flights from Tweed on Nov. 3.

The nonstop flights to Sarasota Bradenton International Airport will begin Jan. 13 and will operate Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, the airline announced Thursday.

The airline is offering limited, introductory one-way fares starting at \$49 that must be booked by Nov. 4. The introductory fare is offered on a limited number of flights and seats and does not include other fees for carry-on and checked bags, assigned seats and other services.

The addition of a sixth destination comes as Avelo moves closer to the launch of flights to Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers, Orlando, Palm Beach and Tampa in two weeks.

Avelo is investing \$1.2 million to help upgrade and modernize the terminal at Tweed, part of an expected \$100 million expansion at Tweed. The expansion, expected to unfold over the next few years, will include a new terminal and longer runway.

"With our very low fares and [Tweed's] unmatched convenience, we hope to inspire our Connecticut customers to visit all six Florida destinations Avelo serves," Andrew Levy, Avelo's chairman and chief executive, said, in a release.

The flights to Sarasota will depart Tweed at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, arriving in Florida at 5:10 p.m. On Thursday and Sunday, the flight will take off at 3:55 p.m. and land at 7:05 p.m.

Return flights on Tuesday will depart Sarasota at 5:50 p.m. and arrive at Tweed at 8:40 p.m. On Thursday and Sunday, Avelo will leave Sarasota at 7:45 p.m. and arrive in New Haven at 10:35 p.m.

Avelo said the service to Sarasota will be on a single-class, 147-seat Boeing Next Generation 737-700 aircraft.

The announcement of the new destination comes less than a month after American Airlines canceled its daily, nonstop service from the airport.

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com

Redistricting panel picks tiebreaking member

Associated Press

The panel of state lawmakers charged with redrawing Connecticut's legislative and congressional district lines has once again chosen a former state senator who also served as a state auditor to be its ninth, tiebreaking member.

Kevin Johnston, of Pomfret, who had the same role during the 2011 redistricting process, was chosen unanimously Monday by the Reapportionment Commission. Unlike in 2011, the members said they hope to meet their Nov. 30 deadline to finish redrawing the lines, despite what's been a truncated process due to the late

release of U.S. Census data during the pandemic.

"We have quite a bit of work to do. But I think working with good-will we can get there," said Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney, D-New Haven.

In 2011, lawmakers couldn't reach agreement on the congressional district boundaries and the

Connecticut Supreme Court ultimately named a special master to redraw the lines. Nathaniel Persily, a political science professor at Columbia University, submitted his revised plan in early 2012.

Johnston served 18 years as a state auditor and 20 years in the General Assembly representing northeastern Connecticut.

Vernon police dog, Thor, dies after illness

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Vernon police have lost a loyal and hardworking member of the department, K-9 Thor.

The police dog died Saturday of an autoimmune disorder and pneumonia, a town spokesman said. His handler, Officer Bryan Sembersky, was by his side.

The Belgian Malinois/German shepherd mix was an important part of the police force over the past seven years, whether he was rooting out a suspect, sniffing for illegal drugs or interacting with children. The police department now has one K-9, Tengo.

"Thor worked tirelessly to protect his fellow officers and the residents of Vernon," Police Chief John Kelley said.

In February 2016, Thor found 1,400 bags of heroin in a car during what was at first a routine traffic stop, Kelley said.

"Two people were arrested and one received a three-year prison sentence," he said.

More recent, in June, Thor found what police believe was the murder weapon in the shooting death of the owner of the Motel 6.

Alvin Waugh, who faces murder and other charges, had fled the scene and told officers on the phone that he had dropped the gun in a body of water, police said at the time. Officers worked to get Waugh to surrender and Thor searched the Hockanum River, finding the gun, which turned out to be homemade.

"Without K-9 Thor's keen abilities, it is possible we would not

have recovered this weapon," Kelley said.

Born in Slovakia eight years ago, Thor came to the United States and trained with Sembersky as a patrol and drug detection dog. Sembersky and Thor were nationally certified.

Police will honor Thor for his service at a private ceremony.

"The bond formed between a police dog and its trainer is very special," said Mayor Dan Champagne, a former Vernon police officer. "I hope the community will join me in remembering Thor for his service to our community and offering our condolences to Officer Sembersky and the entire police department."

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



Children pet Thor as his handler, Officer Bryan Sembersky, watches during a National Night Out event in Vernon. STATE OF CONNECTICUT/COURTESY

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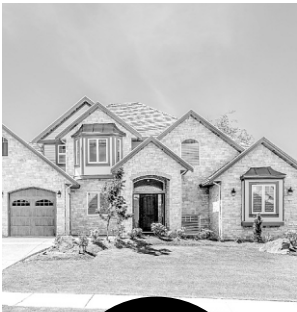
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Hartford Courant

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Carolyn R. Hale, Late of Killingworth (21-0649)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated October 18, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Robert F. Schiffer
c/o RONALD ANGELO SOCCOLI, BRENNER, SALTZMAN & WALLMAN LLP 271 WHITNEY AVENUE, NEW HAVEN, CT 06511
10/22/21 7067915

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Charles W. Nash, Late of Essex (21-0597)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated October 12, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jeremiah Donner
c/o TERRANCE DONALD LOMME, JEZEK & BARBI ATTORNEYS AT LAW, 31 WF PALMER ROAD, PO BOX 376, MOODUS, CT 06469
10/22/21 7067903

City of Bristol, Connecticut INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that the Purchasing Department for the City of Bristol, Connecticut is accepting sealed responses on the following:

2A22-039 Kitchen Cleaning Products Service Agreement for the period through June 2024; bids due November 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm
2A22-040 Miscellaneous Kitchen Supplies for the period through June 2022; bids due November 9, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Sealed responses via the QuestCDN online bidding system will be accepted until the due date and time as noted above. The City reserves the right to waive informalities in bid responses, and to accept any or all bid responses, if in its judgment the best interests of the City will be served. Submission of bid documents are subject to a \$15.00 bid posting fee payable to QuestCDN, the cost of which shall be borne solely by the bidder.

The successful bidder shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Plans and specifications can be obtained online at the website below, or by contacting:

City of Bristol Purchasing Department
111 North Main St, Bristol, CT 06010
Tel. (860) 584-6195
Fax (860) 584-6171
http://www.bristolct.gov/bids
10/22/2021 7067319

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: ExtraSpace Storage, 56 Pameacha Ave, Middletown, CT 06457 860-575-7610 October 27, 2021 at 11:00 AM

Grace Amadeo Unit#2120 Furniture, decorations, Nancy Young Unit#3154 Furniture, Kevin Jacobson Jr. Unit#3195 Household items, Scott Hale Unit#4107 Household items, La'Donna Davis Unit#3180 Housewares, Cotyledon Productions Unit#4069 Boxes, Michael Fallatik Unit#4099 Household

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
10/15/2021, 10/22/2021 7061407

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE MIDDLETOWN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
OCTOBER 27, 2021
PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES. PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

1. Petition for zoning map amendment to correct mapping errors for properties located at 720, 816, 833, and 834 Long Hill Road (Wesleyan Hills) by rezoning them from R-30 zone to PRD zone. Applicant/agent City of Middletown/Land Use Dept. 22021-9

2. Site plan review of the construction of a new science building, renovations to the Shanklin Building and other associated site improvements located primarily on 205 Church St but includes the entire block bounded by Church St, High St, Lawn Ave and Pine St in the ID zone. Applicant/agent Wesleyan University/Rod Szewicki, PE, VHB SPR2021-151

Stephen Devoto, Chair
Planning and Zoning Commission
10/15, 10/22/21 7062960

LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION OLD SAYBROOK ZONING COMMISSION

At the Old Saybrook Zoning Commission meeting of October 18, 2021 the following decisions were rendered:

A. "Planned Development District" Petition to Amend the Old Saybrook Zoning Regulations to add new Section 36 to create a development district as alternative to subdivision of land on 5-acre lots with 1 residential dwelling unit per acre in the MI District.
Applicant: 91 Sheffield Street, LLC.
Agent: Attorney Marjorie Shansky DENIED

B. "Gargano Pasta & Italian Market" Application for Special Exception for 2,500 s.f. restaurant, 1,000 s.f. retail market and 1,000 s.f. of storage space. 75 Main Street, Map 37/Lot 36, Central Business B-1 District, Pedestrian Node, Coastal Area Mgmt. Zone.
Applicant: 75 Old Saybrook, LLC Agent: James Cassidy, RE.
APPROVED

Dated at Old Saybrook, Connecticut this 22nd day of October 2021
Robert Friedmann, Chairman
10/22/21 7066950

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE MIDDLETOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOVEMBER 4, 2021
PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES. PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS PRIOR TO OR AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

1. Request for a variance of Section 21.02 to permit the installation of a handicap ramp and walkway within the required front and side yards on property located at 13 Wall Street. Applicant/agent William Owens V2021-9

Steven Kovach, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
10/22, 10/29/2021 7064865

Town of East Haddam Solicitation of Information Snow Removal and Sanding

The Town of East Haddam is soliciting from contractors in the area the prices or rates they charge for certain types of equipment and certain services relating to snow removal and sanding of the town's streets, roads, and parking areas for the upcoming 2021-2022 winter season. This process will establish a rate structure for services and equipment for all contractors that the Town may hire.

All inquiries for equipment specifications may be obtained from the office of the First Selectman, Town of East Haddam Municipal Office Complex, 1 Plains Road, P.O. Box 385, Moodus, CT 06469 or by calling (860) 873-5021 or emailing admin@easthaddam.org.

All price quotes will be accepted at the Selectman's office until 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 9, 2021.

Dated at East Haddam, Connecticut This 22nd day of October, 2021
Robert R. Smith
First Selectman
10/22/2021 7067827

LEGAL NOTICE CHESTER PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Chester Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing with virtual participation available on the Town website on Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 7:00 PM at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut to hear the following:

Application for Amendment of Zoning Map. Applicant: Charles & JoAnne Park, 31-33 Straits Road, Map No. 14-310.

Details available on Town website or from zoningofficial@chesterct.org.

At this Hearing, interested parties may appear and be heard; written correspondence will be received and made a part of the record. Copy of the above are on file in the Office of the Town Clerk for public review.


Bettie Perreault, Secretary
Dated at Chester, Connecticut this 22nd day of October 2021.
10/22, 10/29/2021 7066404

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Assume 800 gallons to heat 2200 sq. ft. home each year
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Assume 40% reduction in heating oil usage = 320 gallons saved

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NET cost to own new system	\$22.44

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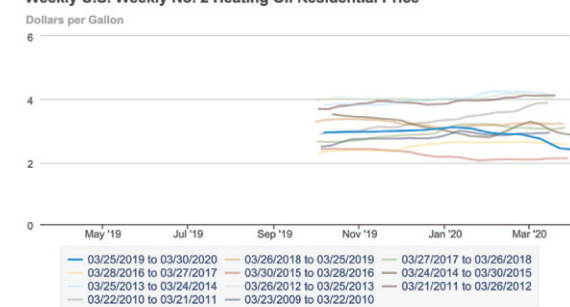
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*Avg. home heating retail prices over 11 years 3/09-3/20 was \$2.999 per U.S. Energy Information. See below. Savings shown up to 40%. 0.99% for 120 months through EnergizeCT. Limitations apply. **For illustration only**, example does not include any additional installation costs such as chimney liner, if needed. Choice of system, availability of financing and down payment will affect final monthly cost. **See Daniels representative for complete details.** CT License S1-385517 HOD#19 / Daniels Propane, LLC: CT License S1-302857

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Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

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‘THE HARDER THEY FALL’ ★★★

All-star cast, plenty of gunfights in Western

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

“I’m lightning with the blam-blams,” brags the quick-draw ace played by R.J. Cyler in the violent, jokey, starry Western “The Harder They Fall,” premiering in theaters prior to its Nov. 3 Netflix launch. The ace’s name is Jim Beckwourth, based on a real 19th-century figure, as are many of the outlaws populating British co-writer, director and musician Jeymes Samuel’s larkish bloodbath.

The scale, the tone and the splatter go great with Samuel’s soundtrack. It’s loaded with dubstep, reggae, Ennio Morricone-adjacent orchestral swells and artists such as Jay-Z, who also co-produced. (Samuel goes by The Bullitts in the music half of his career.) For all the mashups and mayhem, there’s a hint of scrambled reality in the film, with a half-century’s worth of Black figures corralled into the same time period and the same narrative for imagination’s sake. In the words of the film’s opening titles: “These. People. Existed.”

A tale of the Nat Love Gang vs. the Rufus Buck brigade, “The Harder They Fall” works best as a mighty array of Black A-listers of two generations. You could also say “The Harder They Fall” consists on a diet of flourishes. Such as? Zazie Beetz in the saddle, in long shot, with her stovepipe hat; headliner Jonathan Majors, trying out Eastwood’s cherooot and Man With No Name hat; Idris Elba, effortlessly cool, even in shackles and convict stripes (not for long). Also,



Jonathan Majors, left, and Damon Wayans Jr. in a scene from “The Harder They Fall.” DAVID LEE/NETFLIX PHOTOS

any script that takes a few seconds for one outlaw to explain the difference between “hearsay” and “see-say” knows a thing or two. Quentin Tarantino would’ve stretched that exchange into three pages.

The Tarantino influence is strong here, to be sure. The “Django” filmmaker’s frequent producer Lawrence Bender was a big force behind Samuel’s project. Revenge-wise, the premise keeps it simple. After witnessing his parents’ brutal murder at the hands of bad man Rufus Buck (Elba), young Nat Love grows up to be Majors, his character hell-bent on revenge, though pleasant company in Majors’ hands.

Along with the rivalry



Zazie Beetz plays Stagecoach Mary in “The Harder They Fall.”

of the two gangs, control of a small Western town hangs in the balance. There are uneasy alliances and

one choice sight gag, brilliantly designed (thank you, Martin Whist) when the Black hombres ride into a

town so lily-white, it’s literally the color of Ivory Soap down to the dirt on the ground.

The huge, protracted gunfight climax might have more impact with a few less equivalents en route. After a while, the tit-for-tat slaughter grows wearying. There are times when an early line — “Why you sitting up here monologuing?” — comes back to haunt “The Harder They Fall’s” gassier verbal flights. Still, the cast is sterling. In addition to those mentioned already, there’s regal Regina King (Trudy Smith, deadly as they come), LaKeith Stanfield (Cherokee Bill, deserving of a spinoff) and Danielle Deadwyler as the androgynous colleague of Beetz’s

Stagecoach Mary.

Eight years ago, Samuel made a warmup Western with a different cast but some of the same ideas and historical figures: “They Die By Dawn.” It ran 51 minutes. “The Harder They Fall” takes a longer way to town, but a lot of viewers won’t mind that. Not with these actors and this soundtrack.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.
miphillips@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @phillipstribune

MPAA rating: R (for strong violence and language)
Running time: 2:17
How to watch: Now in theaters; streaming premiere on Netflix Nov. 3.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Memorial service brings on acute anxiety

Dear Amy: My mother-in-law passed away last month.

I had asked my wife if she would be willing to delay her mother’s memorial service for three or four months until COVID-19 recedes, but she and her siblings have decided to proceed with a memorial service next month.

My wife’s mom lived 2,000 miles away from us, so we would need to fly to the memorial service.

There will be a church service and a meal afterward, where people will share their stories.

Many of the attendees have been vaccinated for COVID-19.

I am 64 years old and have been vaccinated.

I have a few health issues, which are not currently on the list of high-risk factors.

I would prefer not to attend, and I get anxious when I think about flying and being in a group setting. I would like to visit her home with my wife sometime next year and pay my respects then.

However, my wife and her siblings may feel that I am being disrespectful if I do not attend.

Do you have any guidance?

— *Conflicted*

Dear Conflicted: I venture that your reluctance to make this trip is based more on your free-floating anxiety than on specific risk factors to your own health — understanding that the overall fear of contracting COVID-19 is overwhelming — for you and for many.

The pandemic has pushed many of us into a state of high-alert, and

existing in that state, especially while we are also isolated, is exhausting.

I can’t advise you as to whether to take this on. You are obviously very anxious about it; you obviously don’t want to do it. Tiptoeing out into the world in stages would be easier on you than hopping onto a plane for a long flight.

All the same, although you could be exposed to COVID-19 virtually anywhere, I’m not aware of any major outbreaks within the last year occurring as the result of flying.

Staying home is always safest. Staying home prevents you from being hit by a drunk driver on the highway. Not being around others will inoculate you from colds, allergies and emotional wear-and-tear.

But as Robert Frost famously wrote, “... the best way out is always through.”

Getting “through” should be your goal.

Talk with your wife. Given the level of your concern, it might be easiest on her if you stayed home.

Dear Amy: This is an insignificant problem, but I’d appreciate your opinion.

I have white hair and I think I look good wearing black.

When I am out in public, I can be in mid-sentence when some people will suddenly pick at my black shirt, and then say, “There was a hair on your shirt.”

It seems like they feel compelled to do this.

I have sometimes said, partly joking, “I feel like I’m being groomed.”

Are they doing me a favor, plucking one of my white hairs off my shirt?

Should I be embarrassed, but grateful to have this pointed out?

I am about to give away all my black tops.

— *White on Black*

Dear White on Black:

When people do this, they are not doing you a favor; they are treating their own discomfort — by removing something that distracts them and pulls their focus away from you.

You might not feel this impulse to smooth, straighten, or pluck (nor do I), but I agree with your instinct that doing so is something of a compulsion for people who cannot seem to resist.

Dear Amy: I’d like to thank “Old Veteran” for expressing the same discomfort I feel when people thank me for my military service.

I don’t regret being in the military but, given that the war I served in (Afghanistan) didn’t seem to lead to anything positive for anyone, I don’t think anyone has anything to thank me for.

— *Another Old Veteran*

Dear Veteran: I’ve had a huge response to the heartfelt letter from this Vietnam veteran — most of it compassionate and understanding.

Regarding your own service — it seems that people know how to start wars, but don’t know how to end them.

Your willingness to serve inspires gratitude, regardless of the outcome.

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CELEBRITIES

Pike to narrate fantasy audiobook

From news services

Rosamund Pike, who stars in the Amazon Prime Video series based on Robert Jordan’s “The Wheel of Time” books, also took on the epic task of narrating the audio edition of the late author’s fantasy classic “The Eye of the World.”

“The Eye of the World,” published in 1990, is the first volume of Jordan’s “The Wheel of Time” epic.

Macmillan Audio announced Thursday that the audiobook comes out Nov. 16, three days before the Amazon series airs.

The Oscar-nominated actor stars as Moiraine Damodred in the “Wheel of Time” series, which also features Marcus Rutherford, Josha Stradowski and Zoe Robins.

Young Thug sues over swiped bag: Rapper Young Thug said an apartment concierge let an unknown person take his Louis Vuitton bag holding about 200 unreleased songs and more than \$100,000 worth of jewelry and cash.

The performer’s allegations are in a lawsuit against the company that manages the apartment complex where he lived and its concierge company.

The newspaper said neither JLB Peachtree nor concierge company Pegasus Residential has answered requests for comment about the lawsuit filed last week on behalf of Jeffery Williams, 30, whose stage name is Young Thug.

According to the lawsuit, a concierge at Trace Apartments put the bag in a secure location after the rapper accidentally left it next to his vehicle on Nov. 1, but another employee released it to someone else.

Freeman interviews police recruits: The latest batch of police recruits in an



Rosamund Pike will narrate the audiobook of Robert Jordan’s “The Eye of the World.” JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION 2018

Alabama beach town faced an interview board that included law enforcement experts and a civilian who was recognizable by his voice if not by his face: actor Morgan Freeman.

Freeman, a Mississippi native who owns property in Gulf Shores, was part of a seven-member panel that interviewed nine potential officers for the Gulf Shores Police Department last week, Deputy Chief Dan Netemeyer said Wednesday. The department sometimes asks residents to participate in such screening committees, Netemeyer said.

Known for roles in movies including “The Shawshank Redemption,” “Driving Miss Daisy,” “Unforgiven,” and “Million Dollar Baby,” Freeman sat at a table asking questions with other interviewers including Netemeyer, the police chief, a criminal justice professor and others.

Beyonce teases new song: Beyonce has been keeping a low musical profile over the past few months, but she’s breaking cover with a new song, “Be Alive,” featured in the new trailer for “King Richard,” the Will Smith-starring biopic on the rise of tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams from the perspective of their father, Richard.

The song, which plays throughout the second half of the trailer, is an orchestra-laden anthem, with a powerful vocal by Beyonce.

Oct. 22 birthdays: Actor Christopher Lloyd is 83. Actor Tony Roberts is 82. Actor Catherine Deneuve is 78. Actor Jeff Goldblum is 69. Actor Bob Odenkirk is 59. Rapper Shaggy is 53. Actor Carmen Ejogo is 48. Actor Jesse Tyler Ferguson is 46. Drummer Zac Hanson is 36. Actor Jonathan Lipnicki is 31. Actor Sofia Vassiliou is 29.



Timothee Chalamet as Paul Atreides in “Dune.” WARNER BROS. PICTURES

‘DUNE’ ★★★

Sci-fi epic gets an adaptation that’s hypnotically beautiful

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

On screen, Frank Herbert’s 1965 novel “Dune” best suits a director operating in a pre-“Star Wars” mode of storytelling. The patient, densely embroidered narrative invests heavily in themes of environmental, ecological and colonialist exploitation. Even in a post-“Star Wars” smash such as “Avatar,” still the biggest hit in the universe, the point is how many enemies a noble warrior can kill under pressure, in a hurry, so that we feel good and (per “Star Wars”) wouldn’t mind putting quarters in the same game again *right away*.

“Dune” defies all that. So does its latest screen adaptation, a lot of which I love. The director/co-writer Denis Villeneuve takes on less than half of Herbert’s first “Dune” novel. He and his vast army of design and effects collaborators have created a feat of visual and aural hypnosis. When the sandworms on the desert planet Arrakis rise to the surface, the toothsome sight isn’t for fright or gotchas but, rather, wonderment. When teen messiah Paul Atreides and cohorts board an ornithopter, the eight-blade

dragonfliesque aircraft soars in more ways than one; it’s a triumph, one among hundreds, of digital magic, convincingly rough-hewn design.

If you’re at all interested in what a reliably compelling, stubbornly solemn commercial filmmaker can do with money, imagination and no little nerve, “Dune” is epic enough—even if there’s a wee hole in the middle, where a more compelling protagonist belongs.

Timothee Chalamet is the wee hole. This is somewhat surprising, since the young actor has done so well in both period and contemporary material in recent years. Partly it’s director Villeneuve’s pictorial framing of Chalamet in repose, in various moods: preoccupied Bronte hero, cliffside; psychic communicator in smoldering yet boyish close-up; and so on.

The year is 10191. Atreides (Chalamet) has been bred to become a savior, though he doesn’t realize it yet, known as the *kwisatz haderach*. On home planet Caladan, his folks Duke Leto Atreides (Oscar Isaac) and Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson) get their marching orders from Padishah Emperor Shaddam IV to take over the spice-mining

operations on Arrakis, aka Dune, and indeed the entire planet with all its conquered citizens, known as Fremen.

Baron Harkonnen (Stellan Skarsgard), former ruler of Arrakin: not happy. Always greedy. Terrible steward of Arrakin’s precious resource, which is the key to interplanetary travel and superpowers.

Paul is a young knight, cast in the mold of King Arthur and his gang in days of old. The new “Dune” movie plays out like his quest (mostly on Arrakis) to become the much-prophesied “Muad’Dib,” who will lead the Fremen to freedom.

This “Dune” is the polar opposite of David Lynch’s 1984 inchoate craziness. The ideal screen “Dune” would consist of one part Lynch and two parts Villeneuve. Is there enough spice on Arrakin to make that happen?

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

MPAA rating: PG-13 (for sequences of strong violence, some disturbing images and suggestive material)
Running time: 2:35
How to watch: Now in theaters and streaming on HBO Max

‘THE FRENCH DISPATCH’ ★★

Anderson traps Murray, cast in the world of his invention

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

The great Hollywood film composer David Rakksin said it: “None of my music should ever be played for the first time, since it only confuses people.”

I’ve read several colleagues (who traveled the festival circuit this year) say something similar about Wes Anderson’s new film “The French Dispatch”—that it doesn’t benefit from a second viewing, it *requires* one, so elaborate is its visual construction and production detail. That’s another way of saying there’s a lot going on, and you won’t catch it all the first time.

But in his fastidious, exacting, extraordinarily blinkered creation, writer-director Anderson this time has driven straight into a cul-de-sac, stranding every sort of good and great actor in the cinematic equivalent of a design meeting.

Narratively “The French Dispatch” works like “The Grand Budapest Hotel” if “The Grand Budapest Hotel” unfolded itself and refolded into an odder, more daunting shape.

This film grew from Anderson’s love of The New Yorker magazine, and his boyhood fascination with its far-flung correspondents, cartoons and—especially—the film critic Pauline Kael.

The movie imagines a French bureau of the (fictional) Liberty, Kansas Evening Sun newspaper teeming with literary aspirations and prickly, difficult, worthwhile writers under contract.

Bill Murray plays the stern editor, whose funeral provides the framing device: the publication of the magazine’s final issue. The three tales told in “The French Dispatch”



Bill Murray, Wally Wolodarsky and Jeffrey Wright star in “The French Dispatch.” SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

visualize three different magazine stories. In “The Concrete Masterpiece,” an imprisoned, murderous artist (Benicio del Toro) and his model/prison guard (Lea Seydoux) create a scandal and an art-world outrage.

In “Revisions to a Manifesto,” the heady rebellion of 1960s Paris is transformed into a fable about raw youth and exquisite teen pretension and heartbreak, with Timothee Chalamet leading the ensemble as a faux-Marxist revolutionary and Frances McDormand as the magazine writer and, discreetly, the student’s lover.

The final third of the film’s omnibus structure works best, if only because Jeffrey Wright is marvelous as a James Baldwin-inspired expatriate. The story titled “The Private Dining Room of the Police Commissioner” barely coheres, telling a tale of child kidnapping and a wizard of a chef. But Wright manages to find precise and telling nonverbal moments of introspection, cutting through the filmmaker’s dioramas.

The imagined town of Ennui-sur-Blase can’t be faulted in terms of inventive construction. Anderson pulls from decades of film history for inspiration.

The footnotes and detours and bracketing devices whirl around an increasingly frayed through-line. In “The Grand Budapest Hotel,” the nesting-doll technique felt like it meant something, no little thanks to Ralph Fiennes. Here it amounts to a lot more in one way—in sheer pictorial cleverness—and a lot less in others. Among other problems: Is this really all Anderson has to say about the artist-and-muse mythology? Seydoux, staring down the camera, an objectified nude cipher?

Oh, hell. I may revisit “The French Dispatch” just to see if anything changes. We’ll be in touch.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

MPAA rating: R (for graphic nudity, some sexual references and language)
Running time: 1:43
How to watch: Now in theaters

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HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Making decisions in a close relationship could be difficult at this time, as the two of you may be tempted to tussle over who has the power to make the final call. Try to keep in mind the shared values and ideals that bind you together. You are working toward the same goal.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may run into a conflict with the law—or with a busybody who’s decided that they’re the laws personal representative—in the course of your work today. Thankfully, the actual relevant authority figure might have more sympathy for your side of the story.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): An adventurous financial move may appeal to you now, but there could be some friction if you use resources you share with others. Even if you think the potential reward is great enough to justify going behind their backs, your secrecy may not be as subtle as you think it is!

Cancer (June 21-July 22): A relationship conflict you have at home or with family may seem difficult to deal with, but your friends could have helpful insights for you. A dynamic that you’re too deeply embedded in to recognize might be more obvious from a distance.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Workplace gossip could get out of hand at the moment, and it may be easy to cross a line from sharing information into saying something hurtful. Staying focused on your larger career goals can guide you to the big picture. Do your best to direct your desire for connection toward constructive relationships

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Money may seem to talk loudly, particularly if you can’t get people to take you seriously. While you might succeed in getting others to do what you want in the moment by either giving or withholding resources, ask yourself if this is consistent with your internal philosophy.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may be ready to speak out against a family dynamic that is controlling or manipulative. Before you confront anyone, try to be aware of how you may benefit from the present arrangement, such as through gaining access to money or other shared resources.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You might feel like maintaining control over information is a way for you to achieve security. Unfortunately, the strain of holding in too many secrets can sap energy that you’d otherwise be able to use for different things. Look for a different kind of security.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A distressing event in the news may motivate you to make an effort to be the change you want to see in the world. Finding a way to take concrete action can be an outlet. It might also make discussing your views with others easier. Asking them to do something specific with you is more likely to encourage them to help

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An authority figure may be goading you. Being in any way dependent on them could be exacerbating the problem. Look for a way to do what you need to do by yourself without involving them to reduce any tension. You may have more resources available than you thought you did.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Being too pushy about your ideology might lead to you having more solitude than you thought you wanted right now, as people may decide they don’t want to argue with you. On the other hand, some quiet rest at home could be just what you need. Take some time to recharge.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Using your money to get your way could be tempting, but you might be making any conflict more complicated than it needs to be. If you’re dissatisfied with what prominent members have said in public, approach them in private to talk further.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Oct. 22, 1811, composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt was born in present-day Austria.

In 1906, French post-impressionist painter Paul Cezanne died at age 67.

In 1926, Ernest Hemingway’s first novel, “The Sun Also Rises,” was published.

In 1934, bank robber Charles “Pretty Boy” Floyd was shot to death at a farm near East Liverpool, Ohio.

In 1962, in a nationally broadcast address, President John F. Kennedy revealed the presence of missile bases under construction in Cuba.

In 2015, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton battled Republican questions in a hearing that revealed little new information about the 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya.

In 2016, Donald Trump vowed to sue every woman who accused him of sexual assault, calling them “liars” whose allegations he blamed Democrats for orchestrating.

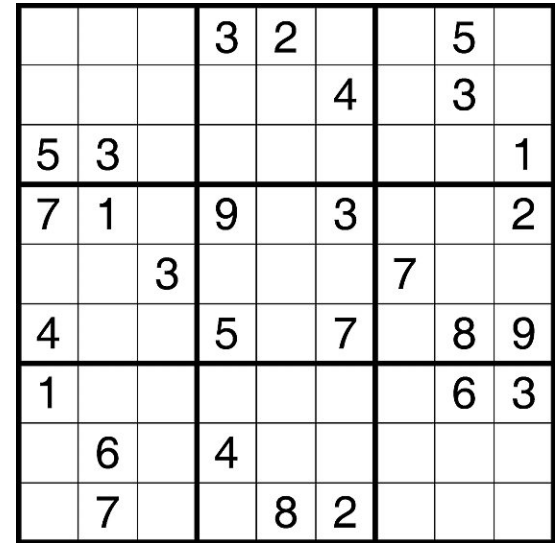
BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

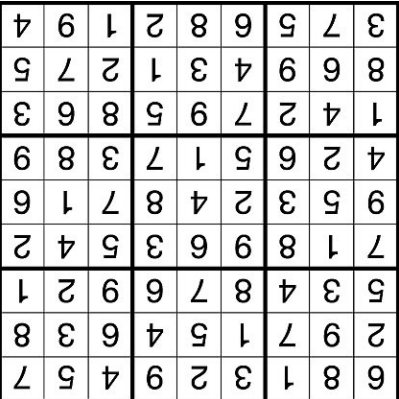
SUDOKU



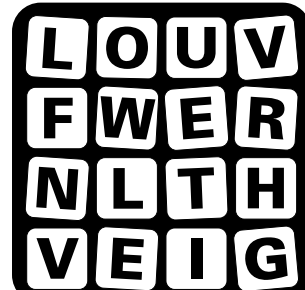
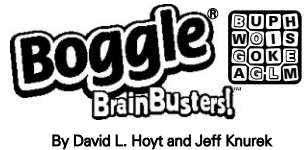
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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



BOGGLE



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INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

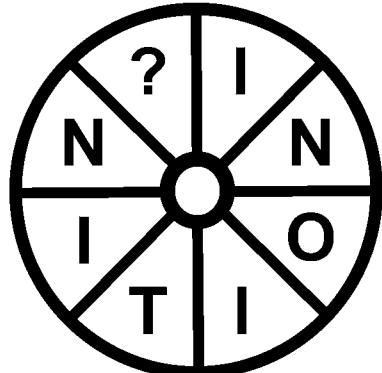
- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE EVEN NUMBERS in the grid of letters.

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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WORD SEARCH

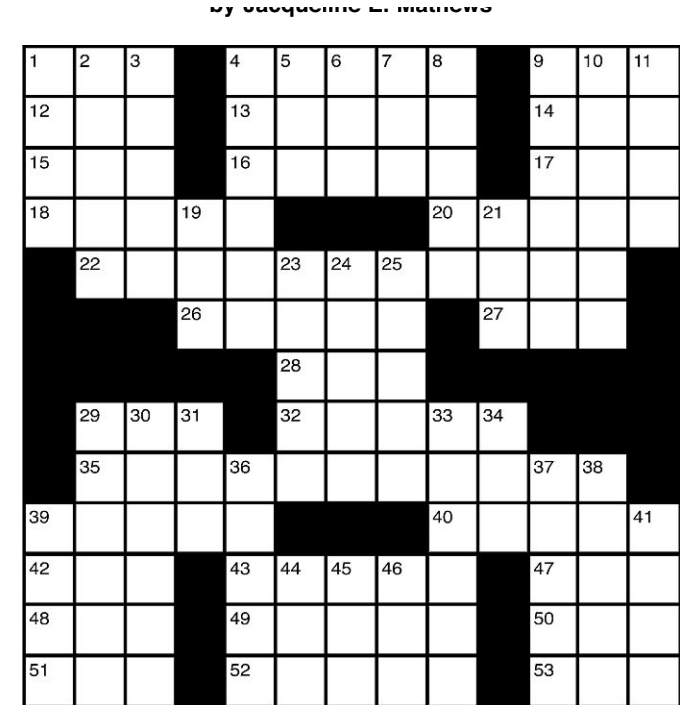
Wordsearch: doctor in the house?

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.



- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| AILING | DIAGNOSE | HEAL | PULSE |
| ANTIDOTE | DISEASE | INJECT | SCAN |
| CAMPHOR | DISPENSE | KIND | SICK |
| CAPSULE | DOCTOR | NURSE | SURGERY |
| CARE | DOSE | OXYGEN | TABLET |
| CAST | DROPS | PAIN | TAKE |
| CASUALTY | ELIXIR | PILL | TEST |
| CHECK | EMERGENCY | PLACEBO | TONIC |
| CLINIC | EMULSION | POTION | TREAT |
| CONSULTANT | ETHICS | POWDER | VISIT |
| COUGH | EXAMINE | PRESCRIBE | WELL |
| CURE | FIRST AID | PREVENT | WOUND |

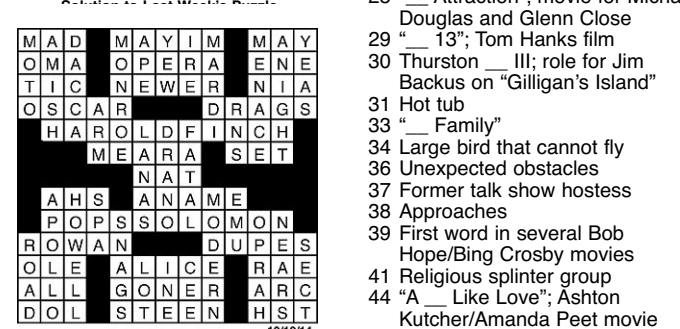
TV CROSSWORD



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 10/5/14

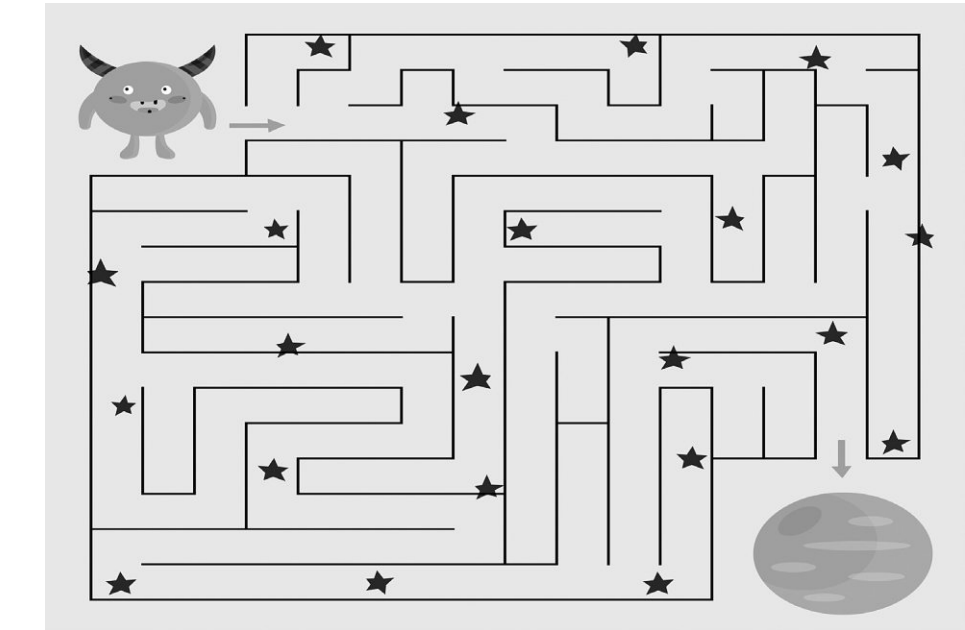
- ACROSS
- 1 "___ About You"
 - 4 ___ Bialik of "Blossom"
 - 9 Eilly ___ Clappett
 - 12 Tumor suffix
 - 13 "La Traviata" or "Carmen"
 - 14 180° from WSW
 - 15 Facial twitch
 - 16 More modern
 - 17 Peeples or Long
 - 18 Felix Unger's messy roommate
 - 20 Boring events
 - 22 Role on "Person of Interest"
 - 26 Actress and comedienne Anne
 - 27 "The TV ___"; film for Sigourney Weaver and David Duchovny
 - 28 Natalie Cole's dad
 - 29 Tongue depressor responses
 - 32 "I Got ___"; Jim Croce song
 - 35 George Segal's role on "The Goldbergs"
 - 39 "___ & Martin's Laugh-In"
 - 40 Pulls a fast one on
 - 42 "Grand ___ Opry"
 - 43 Linda Lavin sitcom
 - 47 Actress Charlotte ___

- DOWN
- 1 Mr. ___; Japanese detective of old films played by Peter Lorre
 - 2 "Return to ___"; TLC series
 - 3 Capital of Bangladesh
 - 4 Marilyn ___
 - 5 King Kong, for one
 - 6 Evergreen tree
 - 7 Anger
 - 8 ___ Gras; celebration before Lent
 - 9 "Dennis the ___"
 - 10 "___ at the Opera"; Marx Brothers movie
 - 11 Affirmative votes
 - 19 "The Man with the Golden ___"; Frank Sinatra film
 - 21 Many hospital workers: abbr.
 - 23 Actress Turner's namesakes
 - 24 Liquid-Plumr competitor
 - 25 "___ Attraction"; movie for Michael Douglas and Glenn Close
 - 29 "___ 13"; Tom Hanks film
 - 30 Thurston ___ III; role for Jim Backus on "Gilligan's Island"
 - 31 Hot tub
 - 33 "___ Family"
 - 34 Large bird that cannot fly
 - 36 Unexpected obstacles
 - 37 Former talk show hostess
 - 38 Approaches
 - 39 First word in several Bob Hope/Bing Crosby movies
 - 41 Religious splinter group
 - 44 "A ___ Like Love"; Ashton Kutcher/Amanda Peet movie
 - 45 Ending for Paul or Max
 - 46 Mediocre grade



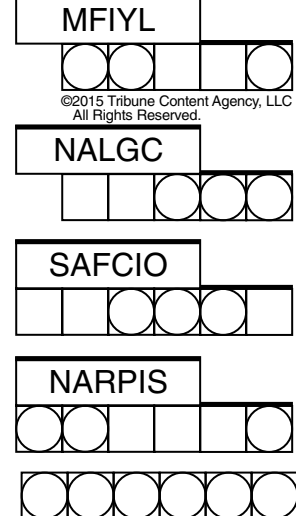
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KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



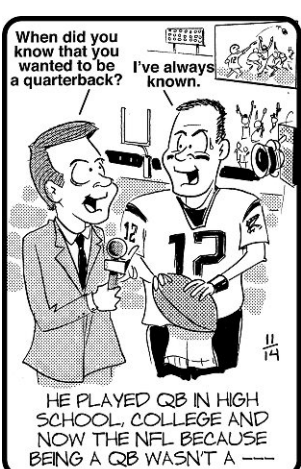
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Jumbles: FILMY CLANG FIASCO SPRAIN
Answer: He played QB in high school, college and now the NFL because being a QB wasn't a — PASSING FANCY

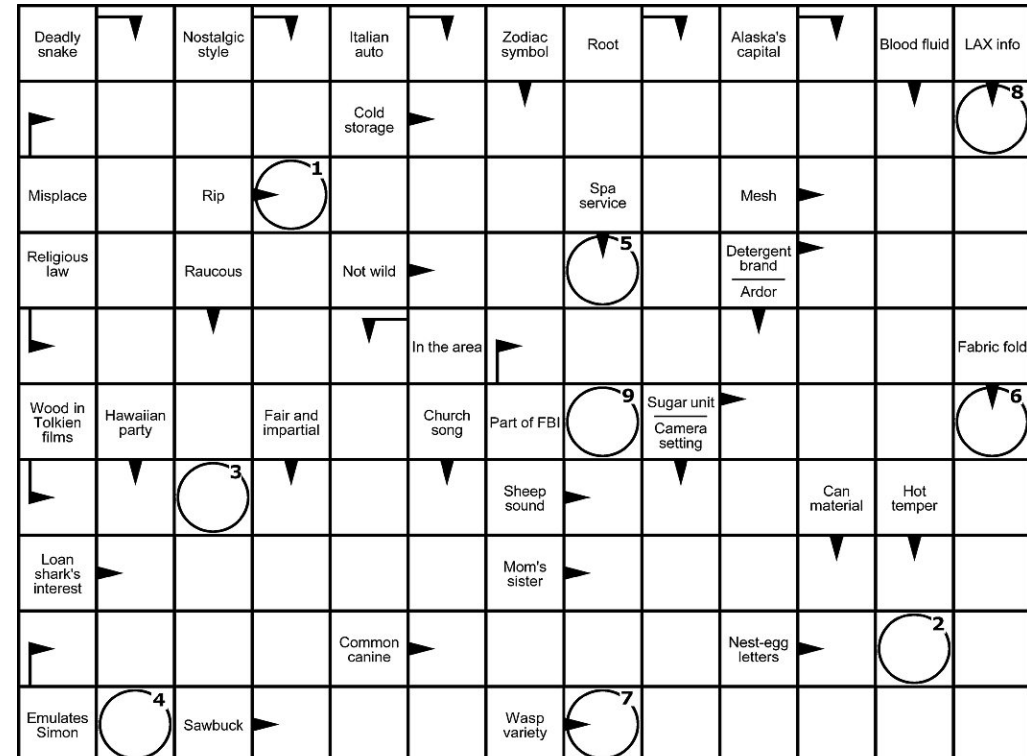
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



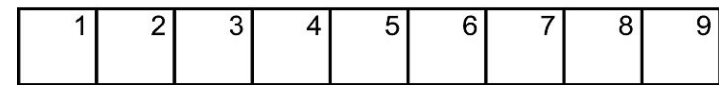
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.



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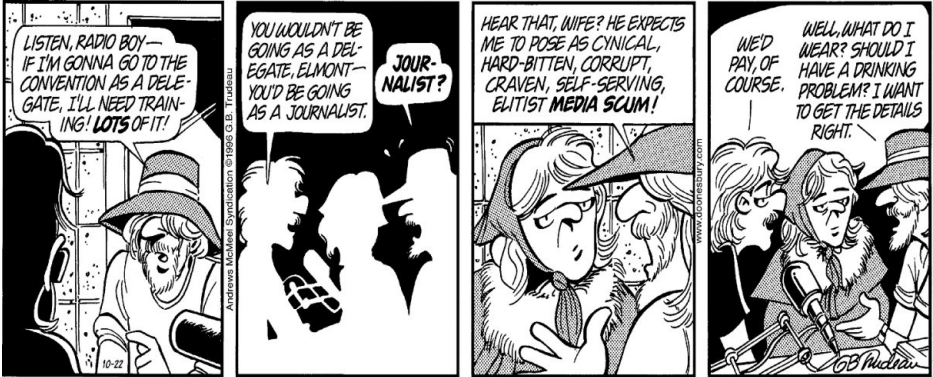
Find 10 differences.



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



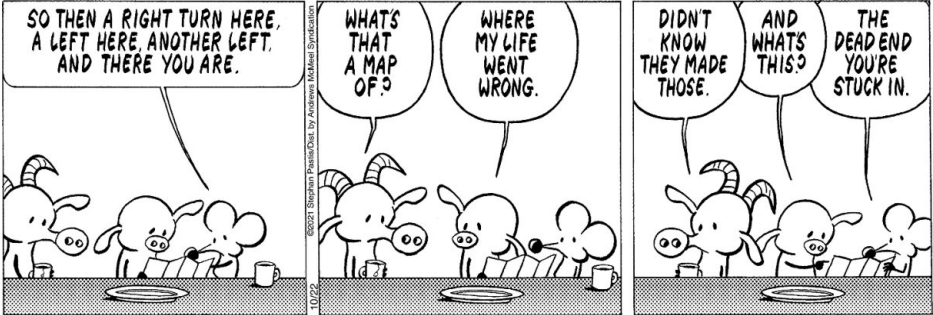
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



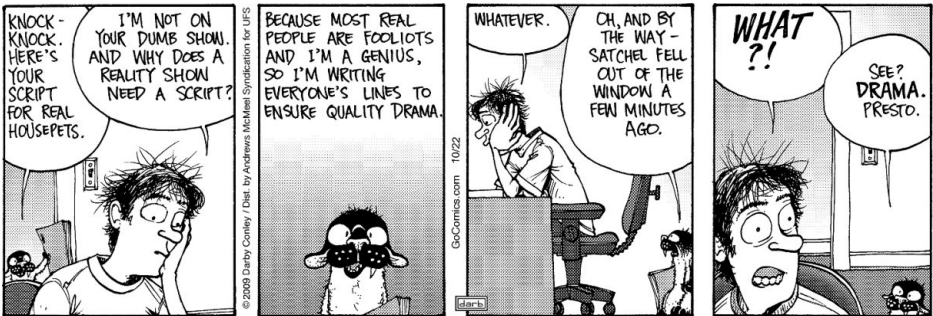
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



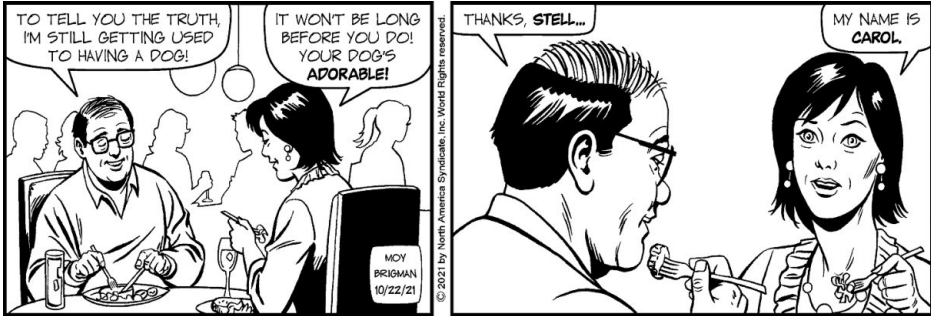
Dilbert By Scott Adams



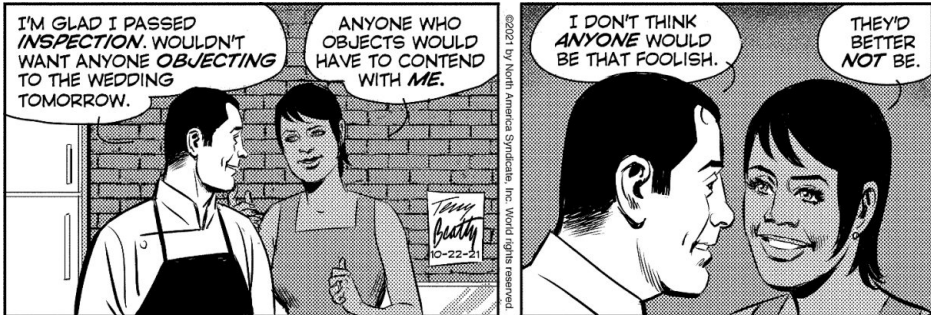
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



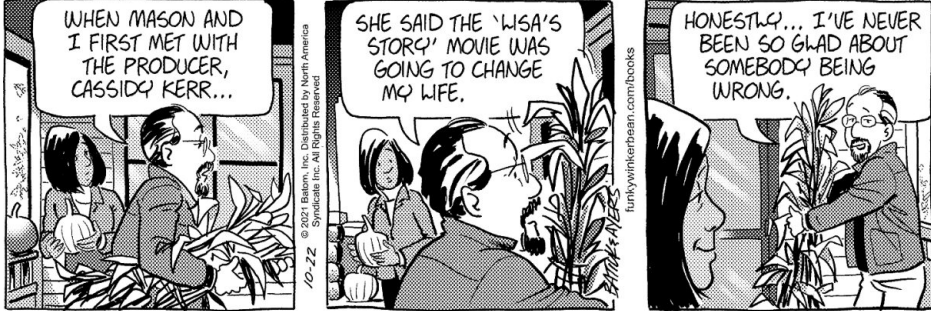
Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



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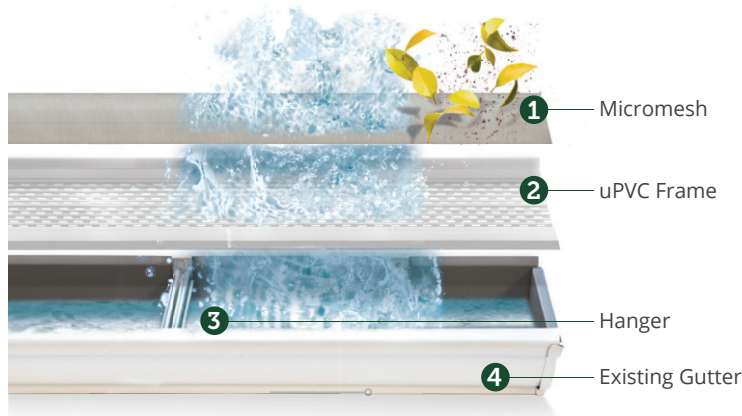
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Hartford Courant

SPORTS

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BIG EAST WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Ackerman talks ideas to intensify spotlight



Big East Commissioner Val Ackerman speaks at a news conference for the Basketball Hall of Fame on Sept. 10 at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville. **JESSICA HILL/AP**

Big East commissioner sees opportunity to raise game's profile in wake of gender inequities controversy

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

NEW YORK — The NCAA came under intense scrutiny last spring when disparities in athlete experiences at the men's and women's Final Fours went viral, a result of broader gender inequities in the NCAA that law firm

Kaplan Hecker & Fink chronicled in an independent review released this summer.

As the NCAA considers its next steps, Big East commissioner Val Ackerman sees more than just an opportunity for the organization to make amends.

"I just think there's really room for some imagination right now and creativity in how to take women's college sports to the next level," the recent Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame inductee told The Courant at Big East media day on Tuesday.

The NCAA has already committed to allowing the women's tournament to use

the iconic "March Madness" branding, which it was previously unable to do. It's also expected to expand the tournament from 64 to 68 teams to mirror the men.

But Ackerman, who studied many of these same issues for her 2013 white paper on women's basketball, doesn't want the NCAA to make incremental changes, but rather adopt a "strategic focus" and a "vision and a plan that leads to the betterment of women's basketball and women's sports."

Turn to Ackerman, Page 4

UCONN FOOTBALL

Secondary building ball hawk identity

Middle Tennessee State brings high-powered passing attack to Rentschler Field

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

UConn's defense has been searching for an identity, something it does well enough to force an opponent to be wary.

It had been taking shape, and then the Huskies intercepted four passes against Yale in their first win of the season. The Huskies have eight picks in eight games, good for 30th in FBS.

"The four picks is honestly just the start," said UConn safety Malik Dixon, a redshirt freshman. "I'm proud of my secondary, and we're going to have some more ball hawking, that dog mentality, and carry it on for the rest of the season and into next year as well."

Junior cornerback Tre Wortham had two picks against Yale, freshman safety Durante Jones had one and, on the final play of the game, freshman linebacker Tui Faumui-na-Brown dropped back in coverage and came away from an end zone free-for-all with the football to preserve the 21-15 win.

Earlier in the season, former coach Randy Edsall lamented that the Huskies might have had several interceptions in the first two games but lacked the confidence to go for the ball. UConn had one interception in the first four games, seven in the last four.

"The confidence is a huge boost in our success," Dixon said. "We are all ball hawks in practice. We make sure we go for every ball, go for every pass, we don't want to drop anything. Confidence and consistency is huge right now."

UConn's increasingly aggressive and cohesive secondary will be put to a test Friday night, when Middle Tennessee State (2-4) comes to Rentschler Field for a 6 p.m. contest.

"They are really good at what they do and will be a challenging defense to go against," MTSU quarterback Chase Cunningham told reporters this week.

Cunningham is completing better than 60 percent of his passes for 162 yards per game with 12 touchdowns and two interceptions. The Blue Raiders also use

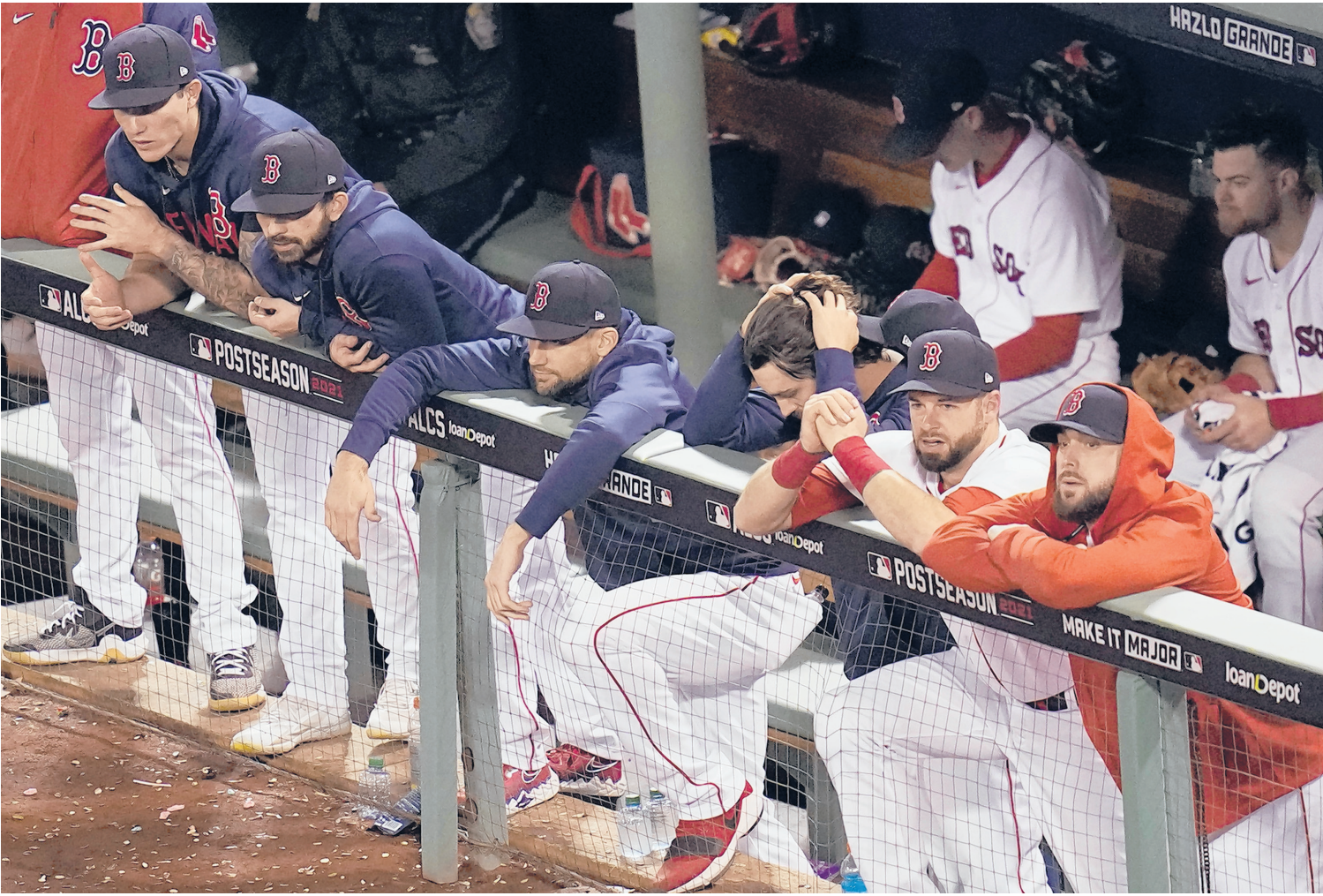
Turn to UConn, Page 4

Up next



Middle Tennessee State at UConn
6 p.m., CBSSN

MLB PLAYOFFS ALCS



Members of the Red Sox watch during the sixth inning in Game 5 of the ALCS against the Astros on Wednesday in Boston. The Red Sox lost 9-1, putting them one loss from losing the series. **CHARLES KRUPA/AP**

For Sox, adapt or die

In ever-shifting ALCS, it's now Boston that needs to make adjustments

By Alex Speier
Boston Globe

HOUSTON — A good postseason series takes on not one character but several, the dynamics shifting in dizzying fashion that can feel like a succession of hair-pin turns on a mountain drive.

A regular-season three-game series is very different from a post-season five-game series, which is very different from a best-of-seven series. The repeated exposure of one group of pitchers to another team necessitates ongoing adjustments that can transform playoff matchups.

The Red Sox-Astros ALCS now

ALCS Game 6
Red Sox at Astros
8 p.m., FS1

INSIDE

- Nate Eovaldi rested and ready for Game 6. **Page 2**
- Yankees' Cashman has plenty of challenges in the offseason. **Page 2**
- Mets news. **Page 2**

feels like an amalgamation of three series. Game 1, a 5-4 Astros win, represented a missed opportunity for Boston and a reminder of the way that the Houston lineup can

pounce at any time. Games 2 and 3 were Red Sox blowout wins that represented the continuation of a history-making stretch for their offense. Games 4 and 5 represented a drastic reversal, with the Red Sox managing just three runs while the Astros erupted at one point for 15 straight runs.

So, what next? That is unknowable, but given the undulations of the first five games, it's not hard to understand why the Red Sox betrayed little agitation as they got ready to board a Thursday afternoon flight back to Houston.

"We kind of knew this was going to happen. We knew it wasn't going to be easy. Not with

a team like [the Astros]," said Red Sox slugger J.D. Martinez. "[But] I'm not doubting our offense."

The Red Sox demonstrated over their 21-run explosion in Games 2 and 3 that their offense was capable of dominance. Yet the reason underlying their high scoring, they insisted, was not just that they cleared the fences seven times, but that they had plenty of runners on base when they did so.

Five of the homers came with runners on base, including their record-setting three grand slams. The Red Sox felt that their controlled approach, with a willingness to take

Turn to ALCS, Page 2

GIANTS

Judge takes full responsibility for fixing his club

By Pat Leonard
New York Daily News

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — If the Giants' players aren't pointing fingers, it's because their head coach isn't, either.

"The fish stinks from the head down," Joe Judge said Thursday before practice. "I'm the head coach. It's my

responsibility. Point blank. Every player on this field, every position group, the execution, it all comes down to me... There's no excuses, no exceptions. It starts and ends with me."

The spotlight is on Judge in particular this week because the visiting Carolina Panthers (3-3) are led by Matt Rhule, whom the Giants coveted in January 2020 but never even got the

chance to interview.

Instead, Giants ownership hired Judge, the impressive disciple of Bill Belichick and Nick Saban, and entrusted him with a rebuild of their program.

An accelerated attempt to win in Year Two so far has flamed out. The

Turn to Giants, Page 4



Up next
Panthers at Giants
1 p.m. Sunday
CBS

INSIDE

2-4 record is not sitting well with Judon, Pats teammates. **Page 4**

Did you know?

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn football: Middle Tennessee, Friday, 6 p.m.
Patriots: Jets, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Giants: Panthers, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Jets: at Patriots, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Red Sox: AL Championship Series: at Astros (Game 6), Friday, 8 p.m.; at Astros (Game 7, if necessary), Saturday, 8 p.m.
Celtics: Raptors, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; at Rockets, Sunday, 7 p.m.; at Hornets, Monday, 7 p.m.
Knicks: at Magic, Friday, 7 p.m.; Magic, Sunday, 7 p.m.; 76ers, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Nets: at 76ers, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Hornets, Sunday, 4 p.m.; Wizards, Monday, 7:30 p.m.
UConn hockey: at Northeastern, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Dartmouth, Oct. 30, 8 p.m.; at Maine, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.
Bruins: at Sabres, Friday, 7 p.m.; Sharks, Sunday, 1 p.m.; at Panthers, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: at Senators, Saturday, 1 p.m.; Flames, Monday, 7 p.m.; Blue Jackets, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.
Wolf Pack: at W-B/Scranton, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Lehigh Valley, Saturday, 7 p.m.; W-B/Scranton, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: Charlotte, Friday, 7 p.m.; Charleston, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Pittsburgh, Oct. 30, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO
AUTO RACING
12:25 p.m.: Formula 1 Racing United States Grand Prix, Practice 1. (Live) ESPN2
3:55 p.m.: Formula 1 Racing United States Grand Prix, Practice 2. (Live) ESPN2
BASEBALL
8 p.m.: ALCS (Game 6): Red Sox at Astros. (Live), FS1. Radio: 1080
BASKETBALL
7 p.m.: Kentucky Blue-White Game. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Knicks at Magic. (Live), MSG.
7:30 p.m.: Raptors at Celtics. (Live), NBCSB
7:30 p.m.: Nets at 76ers. (Live), ESPN, YES
10:05 p.m.: Suns at Lakers. (Live) ESPN
2 a.m.: Nets at 76ers. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2
FOOTBALL
6 p.m.: Middle Tennessee State at Connecticut. (Live) CBSSN
6 p.m.: Columbia at Dartmouth. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Memphis at UCF. (Live) ESPN2
9:30 p.m.: Colorado State at Utah State. (Live) CBSSN
10:30 p.m.: Washington at Arizona. (Live) ESPN2
GOLF
7:30 a.m.: Mallorca Golf Open, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
2 p.m.: Dominion Energy Charity Classic, First Round. (Live) GOLF
6 p.m.: BMW Ladies Championship, Second Round. (Same-day Tape) GOLF
11:30 p.m.: ZOZO Championship, Third Round. (Live) GOLF
GYMNASTICS
7 p.m.: FIG World Championships. (Same-day Tape) NBCSP
HOCKEY
3 p.m.: Rangers at Predators. (Taped) NHL
7 p.m.: Bruins at Sabres. (Live), Hulu, ESPNPlus.
7 p.m.: Hartford Wolf Pack at W-B/Scranton Penguins. (Live), Radio: 1410
7 p.m.: UConn at Northeastern. (Live), 7:30 p.m.: Womens Hockey Rivalry Series - Canada at United States. (Live) NHL
SKATING
9 p.m.: Figure Skating ISU Grand Prix: Skate America. (Live) NBCSP
SOCCER
3 p.m.: Premier League Soccer Arsenal vs Aston Villa. (Live) NBCSP
7 p.m.: USL: Charlotte Independence at Hartford Athletic. (Live), WCTX. 7 p.m.: Pittsburgh at Virginia. (Live) ACC
VOLLEYBALL
9 p.m.: Womens College: Arkansas at Kentucky. (Live) SEC
WINTER SPORTS
11 a.m.: Pintys Grand Slam of Curling Masters: Draw 14. (Live) SPRTNET
3 p.m.: Pintys Grand Slam of Curling Masters: Draw 15. (Live) SPRTNET

YANKEES

No shortage of challenges for Cashman

GM's task: Create payroll flexibility, put together a championship roster

By Kristie Ackert
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — It wasn't exactly a ringing endorsement.

Hal Steinbrenner gave his approval and vote of confidence to Aaron Boone when the Yankees announced the manager would be back on a new three-year deal on Tuesday. But the team's managing partner also added the caveat to his manager, general manager and everyone in the organization that the Yankees have to get better.

There is obviously one easy way to do that. The Bombers could go back to their George Steinbrenner-like ways and spend a lot of money to fix their issues at shortstop, center field and first base.

Brian Cashman said Tuesday that he has not yet been given a budget to work with this offseason. That is not surprising, considering that baseball's collective bargaining agreement with the players union expires on Dec. 1, so

the terms of the luxury tax are unclear moving forward. Still, navigating an improvement of this team and creating some payroll flexibility will be the biggest challenge of Cashman's job this winter.

Obviously, the Yankees brass could soothe their angry fans by going out and landing one of the big-name shortstops who will hit the free agent market this winter. Similar to when they went out and gave Gerrit Cole a then-record setting, \$324 million, nine-year deal after the 2019 season.

Corey Seager, when he is done with the Dodgers' run to try and win a second straight World Series title, seems to be the best fit for the Bombers if not the sexiest name in the pool. There's also Carlos Correa, but would Yankees fans embrace him, though? The Astros shortstop, whose post-cheating-scandal apologies were not accepted by Bombers fans and players, would be the biggest splash, but it might take more than money — and potentially former Astros teammate Cole helping — to erase the feeling he helped steal a World Series appearance from this group of Baby Bombers.

Cashman pushed back hard on

Tuesday, defending Steinbrenner's investment in the Yankees.

"He's all in... but there's only so much he can do at the same time," Cashman said of "the tightrope he has to walk" in terms of being fiscally responsible while still trying to put a championship-caliber team on the field.

"He's not in this to be a wild-card, first-round knockout to our rivals," Cashman said of Steinbrenner. "I would defend him and his family to the fullest. They are all in."

And, to be fair to Hal Steinbrenner, there is no way to compare the business of baseball back when his dad ruled via backpages and now in the time of the luxury tax. Even his father would not be throwing big money at big problems with a team that heads into the 2022 season roughly \$209 million already committed to the payroll.

The Yankees have \$131.5 million already on the books for 2022 with the contracts for Cole, Giancarlo Stanton, Aroldis Chapman, DJ LeMahieu, Zack Britton, Aaron Hicks and Luis Severino.

The young Baby Bombers, who were supposed to give the Yankees

a few championships during their cheap and under-team-control years, are starting to get more expensive. They are part of the 15 arbitration eligible players that the Yankees will have to pay this year, so that's about another \$75 million for the likes of Aaron Judge, who made \$10.175 million this year and will make more in 2022 via arbitration or a possible long-term extension.

Another coach is out: Yankees manager Aaron Boone lost a fourth member of his staff when New York announced Thursday that first base coach and outfield instructor Reggie Willits will leave at the end of the year to become a volunteer assistant for Oklahoma's college baseball program.

A native of Chickasha, Oklahoma, Willits played for Oklahoma in 2002-03 and coached Binger-Oney High School to Oklahoma state championships in 2013-14. A former major leaguer, Willits had been with the Yankees for seven years, the first three as minor league outfield and base-running coordinator and the last four as first base coach and outfield instructor.

An Associated Press report is included in this story.

RED SOX NOTES

Eovaldi rested and ready for Game 6

By Michael Silverman
Boston Globe

HOUSTON — The more looks a hitter can get at a pitcher, the better the odds become for that hitter to find success.

When it comes to Nate Eovaldi's third exposure — one start, one relief appearance — to the Astros in Friday night's Game 6 of the ALCS, that maxim does not necessarily apply.

Thanks to Eovaldi's five-pitch arsenal — four-seam fastball, cut fastball, slider, curveball, and changeup — and also a fondness for introducing subtle changes to his windup and delivery, Eovaldi poses a stiffer challenge than the standard three-pitch starter.

For those looking for hope with the Red Sox on the brink of elimination, the element of surprise about which pitch Eovaldi will throw is one of the brightest this team has going.

"That's kind of the nice thing about having five pitches that I throw a lot, I have different ways of trying to get them out," Eovaldi said on a Zoom call from Boston on Thursday afternoon before the team flew here. "The last time I faced them [as a starter], I basically went through the lineup twice before I was taken out. So the other night when I came in to relieve, it's a different atmosphere when you come out of the bullpen. You're in kind of like that attack mode right away as opposed to starting. I kind of try to set them up in different



Red Sox starting pitcher Nate Eovaldi throws against the Astros during the first inning of Game 2 of the ALCS on Saturday in Houston. TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

ways."

Perhaps lost in the sense of relief that greets an Eovaldi postseason appearance is that Astros hitters have hardly been fooled.

In Eovaldi's six innings in this series, the Astros have seven runs (all earned) on seven hits. And while Eovaldi is not alone on the Red Sox in getting hit hard by the Astros, his results are a reminder of how thin the margin of error is for a pitcher against an elite lineup, no matter how good his postseason pedigree.

In order to blunt the Astros' attack, Eovaldi said it's about "staying aggressive, not falling behind in counts."

Kevin Plawecki will catch Eovaldi, as he has throughout his playoff starts, but that is the only lineup change anticipated.

Ground to a halt: Xander Bogaerts, 2 for 9 in the last two games, has seen too many ground balls from Red Sox hitters lately.

"Maybe start by getting the ball in the air, let's try that out," said Bogaerts. "Just some nights it's not your night,

and it really sucks that it goes that way. We're down, 7-0 [in Game 5]. I don't feel like anyone is trying to hit a seven-run homer. That doesn't exist no matter how far you hit it. It just counts for one point. I just think guys were getting good pitches to hit and for some reason it was rolling over, it was going into the ground."

"We didn't stay to the middle of the field as much as possible. We were getting in actually some good counts, you know, 1-0, 2-0. Hopefully we stick more to the middle of the field and turn this around. We have plenty of time still."

Astros' Garcia good to go: In Game 6 the Astros will go with Luis Garcia, who also started Game 2, allowing a grand slam in the first inning and being lifted after walking the leadoff batter in the second.

At the time, the Astros said Garcia was taken out of the game because of a knee issue. In declining to get specific, Astros manager Dusty Baker said he has been assured by the training staff and pitching coach that Garcia is OK.

ALCS

from Page 1

walks and shoot hits to the opposite field, served as the basis for their rallies, one batter setting up the next.

In Games 4 and 5, Boston saw that approach break down. At times, they looked like they were trying to force hard contact, resulting in an endless succession of popups and harmless fly balls in Game 4 and an incredible run of ground balls in Game 5 — a reflection partly of the incredible sinker of Framber Valdez but also of an approach where batters tried to pull pitches that were darting away from them.

"For six, seven days, we were one of the best [postseason] offensive teams ever, and then you go two games cold," said Sox shortstop Xander Bogaerts. "It really sucks, the timing of it, because they were really important games ... [But] we still have Game 6, and Game 7 hopefully the next day. We can still get hot. We've done it before."

Throughout the series, the teams have had remarkably similar performances with the bases empty. The Astros are 22 for 101 (.218), while the Sox are 23 for 101 (.228). The great separator has been the performance

with runners in scoring position.

Both teams struggled in such moments in Game 1. In Games 2 and 3, the Astros had few opportunities, while the Red Sox capitalized on their frequent presence on the bases. (Four-run homers, it turns out, are a great strategy for winning.)

Then, in Games 4 and 5, the Sox went a combined 0 for 13 with runners in scoring position. The Astros, meanwhile, amassed relentless rallies, going 11 for 24 — most notably in their seven-run ninth inning of Game 4 and their five-run sixth inning in Game 5.

"We haven't been able to stop their fast-break offense," said Sox manager Alex Cora. "When they get going, they get going. They don't stop swinging, and that's something we recognize."

"With men in scoring position, for X or Y reason, they become Hall of Famers as a team. They're average with nobody on, but with men in scoring position, they're Hall of Famers. So we've got to make sure we bring them back to earth and we stop what they're doing."

But how? Cora mentioned the word "adjustments" seven times in a roughly 10-minute media session on Thursday, so it seems safe to assume the Red Sox are looking to tweak their plan of

attack.

For starters, the Sox seem like they'd be well-served to do a better job of mixing pitches. With runners in scoring position, they have thrown 53.7 percent fastballs in the ALCS, most of the four teams still standing. The Astros are hitting .429 and slugging .571 against Red Sox fastballs with runners in scoring position.

It was particularly surprising to see the Sox pump one fastball after another to Yordan Alvarez in Game 5. His swing was grooved to clobber fastballs to the opposite field, while Chris Sale locked him up with the one slider he threw. Catcher Christian Vázquez acknowledged after the game that he would have liked a do-over on his call for a first-pitch fastball with two on and two out in the sixth.

The Sox may start pitching around Alvarez (hitting .421 with a 1.086 OPS in the series) and likewise working more carefully to Yuli Gurriel (.474, 1.208).

"We need to stop their fast-break offense with men in scoring position, make them normal humans, not Hall of Famers," said Cora. "There are certain guys that, they're not going to beat us tomorrow. There are other guys that have to step up for them."

METS

No. 2 prospect Baty is raking in Arizona Fall League

By Deesha Thosar
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Down in the desert, a Mets stud prospect is raking in the Arizona Fall League.

Third baseman Brett Baty was named hitter of the week after the first week of AFL festivities in Scottsdale. He entered Thursday slashing .381/.536/.619 with three RBIs and six walks over his first six games of the Fall League.

Baty went 3-for-3 on opening day and carried a four-game hitting streak to cap Week 1. His .500 batting average and 1.417 OPS through Week 1 led the AFL out of all qualified hitters.

"I'm just coming out here trying to have fun," Baty told reporters in Scottsdale after being named hitter of the week. "Trying to work on some things before the offseason. The success I've had is a tribute to all the hard work and all the guys around me pushing me."

Baty, 21, was selected by the Mets in the first round (12th overall) of the 2019 draft as a 19-year-old high school senior from Texas and currently ranks as baseball's No. 45 overall prospect. He was the first third baseman taken by the Mets in the first round since Chris Donnels in 1987.

The Mets love Baty's ability to hit for power, and though he still lacks minor-league plate appearances, he's quickly climbing up in the club's farm system.

After 51 games in his debut 2019 season, when he hit seven homers and collected 33 RBIs, Baty developed at the Mets alternate site in 2020 due to the pandemic-related cancellation of the minor-league season. He began 2021 with High-A Brooklyn, posting a .911 OPS and 93 total bases across 51 games, before getting promoted to Double-A Binghamton in July.

He continued to hit in Double A while showing patience at the plate with 46 walks combined across Brooklyn and Binghamton. Baty, ranked the Mets' No. 2 prospect, was also selected to play in MLB's All-Star Futures Game this year alongside No. 1 Mets prospect, catcher Francisco Alvarez.

KNICKS

Fournier's introduction to New York couldn't have gone better

By Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — In the words of Paul Pierce, who once shouted after hitting a playoff dagger for the Brooklyn Nets, "That's why they got me here."

Evan Fournier was signed to big money for the reasons he displayed in Wednesday's season-opening victory, when he dropped 12 of his 32 points in the two overtimes and wasn't shy about

firing away.

"We've seen him do that," Tom Thibodeau declared, "that's who he is."

It was a perfect introduction for Fournier, whose role is to boost the offense in ways last season's starting guards couldn't. New York's \$73 million gamble on Fournier (only \$54 million is guaranteed) started shaky as he struggled through preseason, but the Frenchman assured his growing pains would ease once the games mattered.

Then he drained six treys on 13 attempts against Boston, outshining the other newest Knick, Kemba Walker, who managed just 10 points and was benched in the second overtime.

"(Fournier) came up super clutch in overtime, hit some big shots, so I just had to keep finding him," Julius Randle said. "We talked after the game, there's things we feel like we can do better, work on. He has an extremely high IQ. He's a really good player, but he has a

really high IQ. I'm excited to start that chemistry with him."

Fournier's chemistry with Randle is among the most significant elements to New York's success this season. It's no secret Randle enjoyed playing alongside last year's starting two-guard, Reggie Bullock, who left for the Mavericks in free agency. Their connection extended beyond the court, and that was also true for point guard Elfrid Payton, who signed with the Suns.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Florida	3	3	0	0	6	14	6		
Buffalo	3	3	0	0	6	12	4		
Detroit	3	2	0	1	5	13	9		
Toronto	4	2	1	1	5	8	7		
Ottawa	3	2	1	0	4	7	7		
Tampa Bay	4	2	2	0	4	12	17		
Boston	2	1	1	0	2	6	7		
Montreal	4	0	4	0	0	3	15		
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		

Pittsburgh	4	2	0	2	6	16	11		
Philadelphia	3	2	0	1	5	16	9		
Washington	3	2	0	1	5	12	6		
N.Y. Rangers	4	2	1	1	5	8	10		
Carolina	2	2	0	0	4	9	5		
New Jersey	2	2	0	0	4	8	5		
Columbus	3	2	1	0	4	11	7		
N.Y. Islanders	3	1	2	0	2	8	12		

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
St. Louis	3	3	0	0	6	15	8		
Minnesota	3	3	0	0	6	11	8		
Dallas	4	2	2	0	4	8	9		
Nashville	3	1	2	0	2	7	8		
Colorado	3	1	2	0	2	10	13		
Winnipeg	3	0	2	1	1	9	14		
Arizona	3	0	2	1	1	7	17		
Chicago	4	0	3	1	1	8	17		
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		

Edmonton	3	3	0	0	6	14	9		
San Jose	2	2	0	0	4	9	3		
Anaheim	4	2	2	0	4	13	11		
Vancouver	4	1	2	1	3	10	15		
Seattle	5	1	3	1	3	11	19		
Los Angeles	3	1	2	0	2	9	7		
Vegas	3	1	2	0	2	7	12		
Calgary	2	0	1	1	1	4	8		

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Carolina at Montreal, late
Colorado at Florida, late
N.Y. Islanders at Columbus, late
San Jose at Ottawa, late
Washington at New Jersey, late
Calgary at Detroit, late
Anaheim at Winnipeg, late
N.Y. Rangers at Nashville, late
Vancouver at Chicago, late
Edmonton at Arizona, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
San Jose at Toronto, 6p.m.
Boston at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Los Angeles at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Edmonton at Vegas, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Philadelphia 6, Boston 3
St. Louis 3, Vegas 1

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	203	98
New England	2	4	0	.333	125	127
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	67	121
Miami	1	5	0	.167	99	177
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

Tennessee	4	2	0	.667	166	161
Indianapolis	2	4	0	.333	129	131
Houston	1	5	0	.167	92	172
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	116	172
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

Baltimore	5	1	0	.833	170	123
Cincinnati	4	2	0	.667	148	111
Cleveland	3	3	0	.500	156	151
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	.500	117	132
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

L.A. Chargers	4	2	0	.667	148	150
Las Vegas	4	2	0	.667	147	134
Denver	3	3	0	.500	126	110
Kansas City	3	3	0	.500	185	176

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Dallas	5	1	0	.833	205	146
Philadelphia	2	4	0	.333	137	152
Washington	2	4	0	.333	136	186
N.Y. Giants	1	5	0	.167	114	177
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

Tampa Bay	5	1	0	.833	195	144
New Orleans	3	2	0	.600	127	91
Carolina	3	3	0	.500	143	121
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	105	148
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

Green Bay	5	1	0	.833	144	136
Chicago	3	3	0	.500	98	124
Minnesota	3	3	0	.500	147	137
Detroit	0	6	0	.000	109	172
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA

Arizona	6	0	0	1.000	194	109
L.A. Rams	5	1	0	.833	179	127
San Francisco	2	3	0	.400	117	119
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	140	149

WEEK 7 THURSDAY'S RESULT

Denver at Cleveland, late
SUNDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta at Miami, 1p.m.
Carolina at N.Y. Giants, 1p.m.
Cincinnati at Baltimore, 1p.m.
Kansas City at Tennessee, 1p.m.
N.Y. Jets at New England, 1p.m.
Washington at Green Bay, 1p.m.
Detroit at L.A. Rams, 4:05p.m.
Philadelphia at Las Vegas, 4:05p.m.
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 4:25p.m.
Houston at Arizona, 4:25p.m.
Indianapolis at San Francisco, 8:20p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME

Off: Buffalo, Dallas, Jacksonville, L.A. Chargers, Pittsburgh, Minnesota

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

EASTERN	W	L	TPTS	GF	GA
New England	21	4	6	69	62
Nashville	11	3	16	49	47
Philadelphia	12	8	10	46	42
Orlando City	12	8	10	46	43
Atlanta	11	9	10	43	40
C.F. Montréal	11	10	9	42	43
D.C. United	12	13	5	41	44
New York City FC	11	11	8	41	45
N.Y. Red Bulls	11	11	7	40	35
Columbus	10	12	8	38	37
Inter Miami CF	10	15	5	35	47
Chicago	8	16	7	31	51
Toronto FC	6	17	7	25	34
Cincinnati	4	18	8	20	32
WESTERN	W	L	TPTS	GF	GA

Seattle	17	6	7	58	50
Sporting KC	15	7	7	52	33
Colorado	14	6	10	52	43
Portland	14	12	4	46	48
LA Galaxy	13	11	6	45	44
Minnesota United	12	10	8	44	35
Vancouver	11	9	10	43	40
Real Salt Lake	12	11	6	42	48
San Jose FC	11	12	7	40	46
Los Angeles	9	12	9	36	47
Houston	6	13	12	30	45
FC Dallas	6	14	10	28	41
Austin FC	7	19	4	25	49

Three points for victory, one for tie.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago 4, Cincinnati 3
CF Montréal 1, Orlando City 1, tie
New York City FC 1, Atlanta 1, tie
New England 3, D.C. United 2
Miami 3, Toronto FC 0
Los Angeles FC 3, FC Dallas 2
Minnesota 3, Philadelphia 2
Columbus 1, Nashville 1, tie
LA Galaxy 3, Houston 0
Seattle 1, Colorado 1, tie
Vancouver 3, Portland 2
San Jose 4, Austin FC 0

NWSL CLUBS

CLUB	W	L	TPTS	GF	GA
Portland	13	6	4	43	33
Reign FC	12	8	3	39	34
Washington	10	7	6	36	28
Chicago	10	8	5	35	27
Gotham FC	8	5	8	32	26
Houston	9	9	5	32	31
North Carolina	9	9	5	32	28
Orlando	7	9	7	28	31
Louisville	5	12	5	20	38
Kansas City	3	13	6	15	32

FRIDAY'S MATCH

Gotham FC at Kansas City, 8p.m.

U.S. MEN'S SCHEDULE (15-2-2)
q-Nov. 12: vs. Mexico, 9 p.m.
q-Nov. 16: vs. Jamaica, 5 p.m.
q-World Cup qualifying

U.S. WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Thursday: vs. South Korea, late
Oct. 26: vs. South Korea, 8 p.m., at Allianz Field, St. Paul, Minn.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB					
New York	1	0	1.000	—					
Philadelphia	1	0	1.000	—					
Boston	0	1	.000	1					
Toronto	0	1	.000	1					
Brooklyn	0	1	.000	1					
SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB					

Washington	1	0	1.000	—					
Charlotte	1	0	1.000	—					
Atlanta	0	0	.000	½					
Miami	0	0	.000	½					
Orlando	0	1	.000	1					
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB					

Chicago	1	0	1.000	—					
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000	—					
Indiana	0	1	.000	1					
Detroit	0	1	.000	1					
Cleveland	0	1	.000	1					

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	1	0	1.000	—
Memphis	1	0	1.000	—
Dallas	0	0	.000	½
Houston	0	1	.000	1
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1
NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB

Utah	1	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	—
Denver	1	0	1.000	—
Portland	0	1	.000	1
Oklahoma City	0	0	.000	1
PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB

Golden State	1	0	1.000	—
Sacramento	1	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	0	0	.000	½
L.A. Lakers	0	1	.000	1
Phoenix	0	1	.000	1

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Dallas at Atlanta, late
Milwaukee at Miami, late
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Charlotte at Cleveland, 7p.m.
Indiana at Washington, 7p.m.
New York at Orlando, 7p.m.
Brooklyn at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 7:30p.m.
New Orleans at Chicago, 8p.m.
Oklahoma City at Houston, 8p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 9p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 10p.m.
Utah at Sacramento, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Chicago 94, Detroit 88
Charlotte 123, Indiana 122
Washington 98, Toronto 83
Philadelphia 117, New Orleans 97
Memphis 132, Cleveland 121
Minnesota 124, Houston 106
New York 138, Boston 134, 2OT
San Antonio 123, Orlando 97
Utah 107, Oklahoma City 86
Denver 110, Phoenix 98
Sacramento 124, Portland 121

TENNIS

VTB KREMLIN CUP

Thursday at Olympic Stadium, Moscow; indoors-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES-ROUND OF 16
Adrian Mannarino d. #1 Andrey Rublev, 5-7, 7-6(4), 6-3.

#2 Aslan Karatsev d. Egor Gerasimov, 6-4, 6-3.
Pedro Martinez d. #4 Filip Krajinovic, 6-3, 6-4.

Ricardas Berankis d. Federico Coria, 6-2, 6-1.
Gilles Simon d. Mackenzie McDonald, 6-3, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16

#3 Maria Sakkari d. Anna Kalinskaya, 6-2, 1-0, retired.
#8 Simona Halep d.
Veronika Kudermetova, 6-1, 7-6(4).

#9 Anett Kontaveit d. Andrea Petkovic, 6-1, 6-4.
Marketa Vondrousova, 6-3, 6-3.
Lesia Tsurenko, 6-3, 6-3.

ATP EUROPEAN OPEN

Thursday at Lotto Arena, Antwerp, Belgium; indoor-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#2 Diego Schwartzman d.
Andy Murray, 6-4, 7-6(6).

Marlon Fucovic d. #4 Roberto Bautista Agut, 6-7(5), 6-3, 6-1.
#7 Lloyd Harris d. Jan-Lennard Struff, 6-2, 6-3.

Brandon Nakashima d.
Henri Laaksonen, 7-6(5), 6-7(5), 6-3.

WTA TENNISER LADIES OPEN

ThursdayTenerife, Spain, out-hard
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#4 Camila Giorgi d. Danka Kovinic,

ODDS

MLB PLAYOFFS

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
AL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES			
at Houston	-112	Boston	-106

NBA FAVORITE

LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Charlotte	2½ (off)	at Cleveland
at Washington	2½	(228) Indiana
New York	6½	(213) at Orlando
Brooklyn	1	(229½) at Philia.
at Boston	6½	(219) Toronto
at Houston	1½	(224) Okla. City
at Chicago	7	(224) New Orleans
at Denver	7	(219) San Antonio
at LA Lakers	1½	(223½) Phoenix
Utah	5½	(225½) at Sacra.

NHL FAVORITE

LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Toronto	-210	San Jose
Boston	-199	at Buffalo

FOOTBALL
Friday: vs. Middle Tennessee
6 p.m., CBS Sports Network

UConn

from Page 1

Bailey Hockman at quarterback, and he's completing 62 percent of his passes for 154 yards per game and a 135.0 rating.

"They've got some skill players who are really explosive and dynamic," said UConn's interim head coach Lou Spanos. "[Receiver] Jarrin Pierce is a good player, a big-time player. The quarterback does a nice job, accurate, likes to throw the ball on the move. The tight end, Jimmy Marshall, is a good player, long, athletic, the type of kid who can play at the next level."

Even as its pass defense has improved, UConn (1-7) has been susceptible to big plays. Communication among the young defensive backs will be a key in this game. The Huskies hurried Yale quarterbacks 23 times, which helped the secondary. They'll need to do that again.

"If you look at Connecticut, everybody is gonna say they have a bad record, they must be a bad team," MTSU coach Rick Stockstill told reporters. "They are not a bad team. They lost by two points to Wyoming, who's won five games this year. They lost to Vanderbilt by two points there at the buzzer. So this is a team where you can't look at their record and assume anything."

Here's everything you need to know about Friday's matchup.

Pride Game

In celebration of LGBTQ+ History Month, UConn will host its first Pride Game on Friday. Players will wear pride stickers on their helmets, and the coaching staff will wear pride pins. Educational material will be available at the stadium. The Hartford Gay Men's Chorus will sing the national anthem before kickoff, and the first 500 fans in attendance will receive a free rainbow headband.

"We are happy to host the first Pride Game in our history," UConn director

Middle Tennessee St. at UConn: The basics

Time: 6 p.m. ET
Venue: Rentschler Field.
Series history: MTSU, 2-0
Last meeting: MTSU, 38-14, Nov. 17, 2001
The line: Middle Tennessee by 15 ½
Records: UConn 1-7; MTSU 2-4
TV: CBS Sports Network (John Sadak, Randy Cross)
Radio: UConn IMG Radio Network (Mike Crispino, Wayne Norman and Adam Giardino) — 97.9 ESPN Hartford.
Livestream: Information can be found at www.cbssports.com

The tale of the tape

UConn's offense: The Huskies continued to show explosiveness and big-play potential in the win over Yale but lacked consistency, disappearing in the second half and struggling to make a few first downs and run out the clock. Running back Kevin Mensah, with 12 carries for 58 yards, re-emerged and gave UConn a power-running threat to go with elusive Nate Carter, who couldn't turn the corner vs. Yale. Quarterback Steve Krajewski threw for two touchdowns and ran for one.

UConn's defense: The Huskies got more pressure on Yale's quarterbacks, and although they got only one sack, they forced some ill-advised throws and the secondary picked four of them off. UConn's defense has been trending modestly in the right direction but face a more productive offense in MTSU.

Middle Tennessee State offense: The Blue Raiders average 27.2 points but only 88.3 rushing yards per game. So they depend on their passing attack that averages 239.3 yards per game. Cunningham is completing 60.9 percent of his passes with a 149.2 rating. Marshall and Pierce are favorite targets, each with 25 catches.

Middle Tennessee State defense: MTSU allows 184.3 rushing yards per game and 250.7 passing yards. The Blue Raiders have 39 tackles behind the line of scrimmage, including 13 sacks and nine interceptions. They have allowed 145 points in four road games. Defensive end Jordan Ferguson, safety Reed Blankenship and linebacker DQ Thomas are players UConn will need to contain.

Key matchup: Marshall against UConn's Wortham, who had two interceptions last week.

UConn player to watch: Kevin Jones, the UConn defensive lineman who is coming off a breakthrough game vs. Yale.

Yale player to watch: Cunningham.

About MTSU's coach: Rick Stockstill, 63, was Florida State's quarterback from 1977-81. He was an assistant coach for 24 years at Bethune-Cookman, UCF, Clemson, South Carolina and East Carolina before getting his first head coaching job at MTSU in 2006. He is 96-96, but 72-47 in conference play (Sun Belt and Conference USA) with eight bowl appearances.

Famous MTSU alumni: MLB pitcher Devon Brazelton, WNBA forward Alysha Clark, NFL receiver Richie James.

of athletics David Benedict said in a statement. "UConn athletics aspires to promote an inclusive environment for all of UConn Nation and we plan on hosting additional pride games in the future."

LGBTQ+ organizations interested in attending the game can email marketing@uconn.edu for information.

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

PATRIOTS NOTES

2-4 record not sitting well with Judon, teammates

By **Jim McBride**
Boston Globe

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Matthew Judon is ready to score some goals.

No, New England's stand-out linebacker isn't about to switch sports, but he knows many of the Patriots' 2021 objectives are still obtainable.

The record isn't ideal. In fact, it's less than ideal.

"It stinks, honestly. It stinks," Judon said. "I can sit up here and say, 'We could have been, or we should have been, or we could [be], but the reality of it is we're 2-4. Nobody in locker room wants to be 2-4. Nobody in the locker room is happy about that record.'"

Judon, however, doesn't believe happiness is too far away.

"The one thing that we all are [is] encouraged. It's not the end of the season. All hasn't been said. It's not written in the record books yet," he said. "So, we can change that. We can change that. That's why we're all encouraged. We all know what we can do better. We all know what we need to do better. And we're going to go out there and do it better. We have to or it can get ugly real fast."

While it might be easy to be in the dumps about the start to the season, Judon said Thursday the team's mood is more merry than morose.

"We know who we have in our locker room and we're not going to get down on ourselves," Judon said. "I won't let anybody who comes in there think they're a bad football player. We all have seen bad football players and I don't think we have any of those on the team. Not one guy."

College ties: Kyle Van Noy knew about Zach Wilson long before anyone in Gotham had ever heard of the Jets latest wunderkind quarterback.

Van Noy was helping a friend run a 7-on-7 camp for high school recruits in Utah when he spotted a young gunslinger that had committed to the veteran linebacker's alma mater, Brigham Young. Van Noy liked what he saw and was certain he would be seeing a lot more of Wilson.

"You knew he was going to be special," Van Noy said Thursday. "He's got a cannon, and he carries himself in a different way that you're like, 'OK, he's got it.' That's the kind of guy you like."

Defensive upgrades: The Patriots injury report is still longer than a CVS receipt, but the club did receive some good news when defensive starters Dont'a Hightower (elbow/ankle) and Deatrich Wise Jr. (knee) were upgraded to limited for Thursday's practice after sitting out the day before.

Nose tackle Davon Godchaux (finger) and cornerbacks Jonathan Jones (ankle) and Shaun Wade (concussion) were the only players to sit out Thursday.

Also listed as limited for the shells and sweats session included: defensive lineman Christian Barmore (shoulder); linebackers Kyle Van Noy (groin), Josh Uche (shoulder), Ja'Whaun Bentley (ribs), and Brandon King (thigh); cornerback Jalen Mills (hamstring); safeties Adrian Phillips (back) and Kyle Dugger (knee); running back Brandon Bolden (thigh); guard Shaq Mason (abdomen); and kicker Nick Folk (left knee).

Ackerman

from Page 1

A combined Final Four

Ackerman initially advocated for a combined men's and women's Final Four, which the Kaplan report also recommended, in 2013.

"Right now, I think it's the most challenging of all scenarios to be in two different cities on the same weekend," she said. "It would be like putting the NBA and the WNBA All-Star Games on the same weekend in different cities. So I think to be able to combine sponsors, media, NCAA personnel, and fans most of all would create just a colossal event for college basketball."

Ackerman pointed to the logistical benefits of having NCAA membership gather in one location. As it is now, she supposes she's one of a handful of commissioners who travel to both championships. Currently sponsors are more heavily investing, or activating, at the men's tournament, where there is also a greater media presence. Having everything in one place could help elevate the women's Final Four.

Combining the Final Fours could model Grand Slams in tennis where the men's and women's tours come together, but sequence the competition so that men's and women's games aren't on the same days. With high-profile concerts and fanfests to complement the actual basketball, Ackerman compares the men's Final Four to the Super Bowl, something that would only benefit the women's tournament to be a part of.

"Barring that, I think it would be better to have the two events on different weekends so there's not this competition for sponsor activation, media coverage,

travel by NCAA and school personnel," Ackerman added.

Critics of a joint Final Four argue that fewer cities could accommodate all those NCAA personnel, teams and fans, and many fans fear that prices for hotels and airfare would skyrocket. Some are concerned that women's basketball would still be positioned as secondary to the men's championship.

"I don't think a reason to not do it is because of fears that the women will get overshadowed," Ackerman said. "I don't think that's giving women's basketball enough credit. I feel very sure that women's basketball will not get overshadowed."

Potential media rights unbundling

The Desser Sports Media group conducted an addendum to the Kaplan report on media and sponsorships. There they estimated that the annual broadcast rights for the women's basketball championship are currently "significantly undervalued" and will be worth \$81-\$112 million per year in 2025 — much higher than the \$34 million annually that ESPN currently pays for the entire package of women's basketball and 28 other non-men's basketball championships.

ESPN's deal for that 29-championship bundle began in 2001, was renewed in 2011 and runs through 2024. The Desser addendum argues: "Because the NCAA has never put the Other Championships package up for competitive bid — either as a collection of properties or broken out individually (e.g., the WBBC bid individually), the NCAA has foregone the single most crucial negotiating tactic in assuring it is receiving fair

market value for its media property."

"It's sort of a more complex process because of the way the television contract works between ESPN and the NCAA," Ackerman said. "It would take time to unwind that [package] but I would support the recommendation to test the market value of the women's tournament, as well as selling independent sponsorships for the women's championship."

The Kaplan report asserts that the NCAA's sponsorship model is structured in a way that only benefits the men's basketball championship. CBS/Turner, which only owns the broadcast rights for the men's championship, controls the sponsorship rights for all NCAA championships, which incentivizes sponsorship money to be directed toward the men's championship. To boot, 0.1% of official sponsorship revenue was earmarked to support non-men's basketball championships. "The practical effect of the present structure is that the NCAA has Corporate Champions and Partners of the MBBC, but not the NCAA," Desser wrote.

"You're not really getting a true sense of the commercial worth of the [women's] tournament," Ackerman said. "And I think it could be a revenue opportunity for the NCAA and certainly just as a matter of respect the women deserve the opportunity to have their worth tested."

Broader strategy

The Kaplan report and Ackerman both support the creation of a chief business or marketing officer role within the NCAA, someone who could formulate a strategy for marketing, promoting and sponsorships across all sports.

But in this moment where women's sports overall are

on the rise and the spotlight on gender inequity refuses to go away, developing a robust plan to increase the visibility of a sport like women's basketball year-round, and not just during the championships, would be beneficial to the athletes, sport and NCAA.

"There's never really been a strategic vision around commercial possibilities," Ackerman said. "And I don't mean in sort of an exploitative way, it just means that like a promotional, increase visibility, giving women's sports the credit they deserve for having potential in the marketplace. Frankly, other than men's basketball, there's never been, except in connection with the championships."

And Ackerman isn't kidding when she says there's room for creativity in shaping a path forward. She posits: what if there was a way to co-sell women's college basketball with the WNBA?

"It could be an interesting opportunity here to bundle," Ackerman said. "There's no overlap [in their seasons]. I think it would be an interesting conversation to see if someone could own 'women's basketball.'"

UConn women's tip times finalized

The Huskies finalized some more tip times for their 2021-22 schedule.

UConn at Oregon will be played at 5 p.m. Jan. 17 and broadcast on ESPN2. The Huskies will also play at St. John's on Jan. 23 at 1 p.m., at Providence on Jan. 30 at 11 a.m. (at the Dunkin' Donuts Center), versus Georgetown on Feb. 20 at 2 p.m., and vs. Providence on Feb. 27 (Senior Day) at 2 p.m.

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

Safety Tip of the Day

Be involved while your child is learning to drive. Give them instructions, take them out driving under varying road conditions, and challenge them to work hard at becoming a good driver.



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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

More moves: AAC to add 6 new teams

Major college football is settling into a strange period with lame duck memberships and frayed allegiances that could last another season or even two as conferences sort out the latest shifts and turns of realignment. The American Athletic Conference on Thursday became the latest to act in the trickle down effect from Texas and Oklahoma's announced move to the Southeastern Conference. The AAC is adding UAB, UTSA, Rice, North Texas, Charlotte and Florida Atlantic to replace three schools that are leaving for the Big 12 Conference — eventually. Pinning down an ETA for the AAC's new additions is complicated because the conference doesn't realistically have room for the newcomers until the outgoing schools have departed for third new destination. Those within the AAC believe 2023 is a realistic target for the transition to a 14-team conference after swiping six schools from Conference USA. But, of course, it all starts with Texas and Oklahoma. The Longhorns and Sooners are contractually obligated to the Big 12 until July 2025. The SEC has made it clear that while it's looking forward to having Texas and Oklahoma on board, the league is also apparently fine if it has to wait until then.

Kanter draws ire of Chinese network



Chinese broadcaster and NBA partner Tencent isn't showing current or archived Celtics games on its platforms, in apparent response to comments that Celtics center Enes Kanter made to advocate Tibetan independence. Kanter, as part of a series of social media posts, also called Chinese President Xi Jinping a "dictator." Kanter didn't play in the Celtics' season-opening 138-134 loss to Knicks on Wednesday night. The game that wasn't shown on the streaming services that typically broadcast most NBA games to millions in China. Kanter was wearing shoes emblazoned with the words "Free Tibet" during Wednesday night's game. "More than 150 Tibetan people have burned themselves alive!! — hoping that such an act would raise more awareness about Tibet. I stand with my Tibetan brothers and sisters, and I support their calls for Freedom," he wrote on Twitter. The league and China have had a damaged relationship since October 2019, when then-Rockets GM Daryl Morey tweeted in support of government protesters in Hong Kong.

Home of Kraken already rocking

The first event ever inside Seattle's Climate Pledge Arena — whether it will be considered the official first event or not — was far from a soft opening. "Dave Grohl said he was going to tear the building down," joked Oak View Group CEO Tim Leiweke on Wednesday, barely 12 hours after Foo Fighters christened the new facility. "He came close, at 2 1/2 hours I think he was intent." The home of the Kraken survived the screams and guitars of rock stars once this week and seems ready for its hockey debut Saturday night when the Kraken host the Canucks. Before the first home game for the NHL's newest franchise, the arena will have its first official event Friday when Coldplay performs there. The week's events — which began with Tuesday's benefit show featuring Foo Fighters — are the culmination of a process that started nearly five years ago when Oak View Group was selected by Seattle to renovate what had been known as KeyArena when it was home to the NBA's SuperSonics. The building resolved a long struggle to find a suitable arena for pro sports and concerts. It will also be home to the WNBA's Storm and perhaps someday the NBA once again. "We're very pleased on what we have created for Seattle in this moment of truth," Leiweke said. —AP



"It Takes All Of Us" is painted on NFL end zones this season as part of the league's Inspire Change platform. In the fallout since

NFL

‘Inclusion is a choice’

Emails show league needs culture change at the top

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

Every week for the last two seasons, NFL players take the field wearing social justice messages on their helmets, and "It Takes All of Us" and "End Racism" are stenciled in the end zones as part of the league's Inspire Change platform. But actions often speak louder than words. The fallout from Jon Gruden's emails has many questioning what it will take to really change the culture in the NFL. "I can't say that I was surprised at all that that kind of dialogue is happening behind the scenes," three-time Pro Bowl safety Malcolm Jenkins said on the AP Pro Football Podcast. "I think that we understand the culture of the NFL and we can put 'Inspire Change' logos all over the field and create logos all we want, but until you actually change what leadership looks like, you can't expect to change the culture." In a sport with about 70% of the players Black, more than 80% of head coaches (27 of 32) and GMs (also 27 of 32) are white. Among principal owners, only the Jaguars' Shad Khan and Bills' Kim Pegula are members of minorities. "In the case of Jon Gruden, obviously it's very disappointing to the people who respected him, look up to him and the man he was to our league," Jenkins said. "But I think if we focus only on Jon Gruden, then we miss the bigger picture, which is that he was able to exist like that because the culture around him accepted it. When he sent those emails, nobody raised a red flag, nobody brought it to anybody's atten-

tion. It was a normal thing. "And I think that's the culture behind the scenes that we need to change. And so again, we can clap our hands at all of the pageantry that we've done now as everybody's kind of come to this social justice narrative, but until you start to see a change in leadership, whether it be more Black coaches, more Black GMs, a diversity in ownership, then I don't know how we expect the culture of the NFL to change." Troy Vincent, a six-time Pro Bowl cornerback, former president of the NFL Players Association and current NFL executive VP of football operations, agrees with Jenkins. "A key learning from working on these issues over the past three decades is that diversity is a fact, inclusion is a choice," Vincent told the AP. "Collectively, a necessary decision to be made is that inclusion matters. Inclusion, whether that is race, gender, sexual orientation, age or otherwise, leads to better decisions, outcomes, and impact. Malcolm is spot on. These recent public revelations are a call for culture change and taking action." Broncos safety Justin Simmons says the NFL has made progress in recent years, but more needs to be done. "Guys in the locker room talk about that stuff, man," Simmons said about racist views coming from people in leadership positions. "I think that's why it's important that we've been putting a spotlight on (it) in the past few years, especially in the NFL. We have the logos on the backs of the helmets and in the backs of the end zones. I think that's why it's important to have different cultures in those positions, right? Because you're not getting it all from one set of any type of person. "And so, obviously qualified, you've got to be qualified to be in those positions. But I think that's why it's important: you get different backgrounds, you get different opinions, you get different

things glowing in that aspect of it. So, yeah, guys talk about it." Hall of Fame wide receiver Jerry Rice played for Gruden with the Raiders after leaving the 49ers. He said he was "shocked" to hear Gruden expressed racist, homophobic and misogynistic thoughts in emails he wrote from 2011-18 to then-Washington Football Team executive Bruce Allen. At the time, Gruden was an ESPN analyst between coaching jobs. "It goes against everything that we've been trying to change," Rice said. The NFL has not publicly released what is in the 650,000 emails the independent investigators collected during an investigation of sexual harassment and other workplace conditions at the Washington Football Team. Gruden resigned last week as Raiders coach after his denigrating comments were reported. NFL Players Association chief DeMaurice Smith has called for the league to release every email from the investigation. On Thursday, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, sent a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell requesting documents and information regarding the investigation and the league's handling of it. Jenkins said "transparency" will "expose the culture of the NFL." "We have a long history, obviously, in this country of things being white-dominated. ... and we've never really about-faced from that type of environment or that culture, especially when it comes to the very top decision makers in the league," Jenkins said. AP writers Arnie Stapleton and Howard Fendrich contributed to this report.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES TO WATCH

Battle with Tigers a Kiffin job interview?

By Matt Murschel | Orlando Sentinel



LSU (4-3) at No. 12 Ole Miss (5-1)

3:30 p.m. Saturday, CBS
Now that LSU has announced it is cutting ties with coach Ed Orgeron at the end of the season, expect a lot of speculation surrounding the next Tigers coach. Ole Miss coach Lane Kiffin is among a list of rumored candidates, giving this one a little extra meaning. Rebels quarterback Matt Corral is first in the SEC in total offense (363 yards per game), second in points responsible for (134) and third in passing yards per game (288), but the last time he faced an LSU defense (2020) he threw a career-worst five interceptions.



No. 8 Oklahoma St. (6-0) at Iowa State (4-2)

3:30 p.m. Saturday, FOX
Oklahoma State hopes to improve to 7-0 for the first time since 2015 as the Cowboys continue to push for their first Big 12 title since 2011. OSU has found a way to battle through adversity, winning four one-possession games. Iowa State is 15-6 in October under coach Matt Campbell, including a 5-2 mark against ranked teams. The Cyclones have lost eight of the last nine meetings in this series with the last six decided by a touchdown or less.



No. 10 Oregon (5-1) at UCLA (5-2)

3:30 p.m. Saturday, ABC
UCLA coach Chip Kelly is 0-2 against his former team, including last year when Oregon jumped out to a 14-0 lead and forced four Bruins turnovers before hanging on for a 38-35 win. UCLA has lost eight of the last nine games in this series and is looking for its first win over a top 10 team since 2010. This matchup features two of the top tailbacks in the league in UCLA's Zach Charbonnet (697 yards) and Oregon's Travis Dye (527 yards).



Tennessee (4-3) at No. 4 Alabama (6-1)

7 p.m. Saturday, ESPN
Alabama has won 14 straight games against Tennessee in this SEC cross-divisional rivalry, including eight straight at Bryant Denny Stadium. This is a matchup of two of the top-three offenses in the conference with the Crimson Tide (45 points per game) leading the league and Tennessee (39 points) ranked third. Alabama quarterback Bryce Young remains a favorite for the Heisman Trophy. He ranks third nationally in passing touchdowns (24) and points responsible for (146) and fourth in passing efficiency (180.0).



USC (3-3) at No. 13 Notre Dame (5-1)

7:30 p.m. Saturday, NBC
Notre Dame hopes to make it four straight wins in this longstanding rivalry series which saw the 2020 game canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last time USC won at Notre Dame Stadium was 2011 when Matt Barkley passed for 224 yards and three touchdowns as the Trojans jumped out to a 17-0 lead on their way to a 31-17 win. Notre Dame saw its 26-game home winning streak snapped by Cincinnati on Oct. 2. The last time the Fighting Irish lost two home games was 2016.

Other Top 25 games of note

No. 5 Ohio State (5-1) at Indiana (2-4): The Hoosiers gave the Buckeyes a scare last season with a furious second-half rally, but Ohio State has won 26 straight in the series. **Northwestern (3-3) at No. 6 Michigan (6-0):** Michigan has outscored opponents 77-10 in the second quarter. **No. 18 North Carolina State (5-1) at Miami (2-4):** When considering ACC games, lean toward results that would make the division races more complicated.




— Associated Press



Ole Miss coach Lane Kiffin is among the names swirling around as Ed Orgeron's successor at LSU when the Tigers coach departs at the end of the season. **WADE PAYNE/AP**

WEATHER

FRIDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and remaining milder than normal. West winds at 5 to 10 mph.

HIGH 70°
LOW 46°

SATURDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mixed clouds and sunshine, a shower is possible early, cooler.

HIGH 59°
LOW 40°

SUNDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and cool.

HIGH 59°
LOW 40°

MONDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mixed clouds and sunshine, a shower or a sprinkle is possible, cool.

HIGH 55°
LOW 42°

TUESDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly cloudy, chance for a few showers, cool.

HIGH 57°
LOW 45°

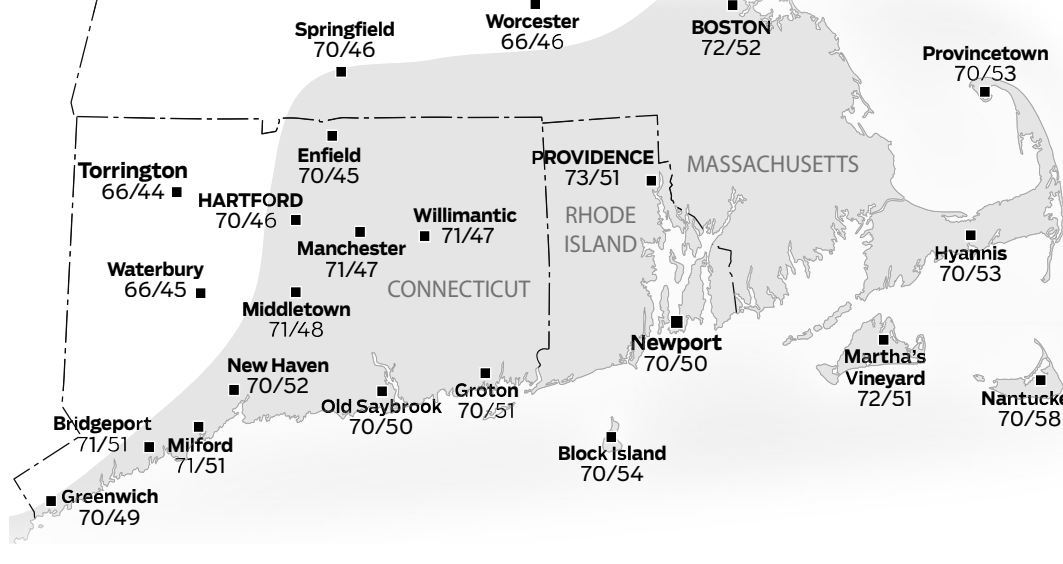
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courant.com/weather

YOURCAST



OUTLOOK

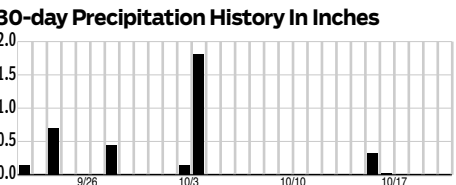
A weak cold front will be crossing eastern portions of the state Friday morning, but its impacts will be minimal. It will be a partly sunny and mild day with highs ranging from the mid-60s to the lower 70s. A secondary front moving through overnight and early Saturday morning will cause clouds and the chance for a shower or some sprinkles. Temperatures will be much cooler behind this second front with highs from the 50s to the lower 60s. Temperatures are likely to be at below normal or seasonable levels through the remainder of October and possibly the first week of November.

-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00 0.14
Month to date	2.31 3.20
Total this year	47.68 38.14

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks



Air Quality Forecast For Today

56°

Good 46

Moderate 3

Air Quality Today

Ultraviolet Index Today

Wind Chill Today

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:11 a.m.	7:12 a.m.
Sunset	6:00 p.m.	5:58 p.m.
Moonrise	7:09 p.m.	7:40 p.m.
Moonset	9:03 a.m.	10:05 a.m.

Moon Phase

Last Oct 28

New Nov 4

First Nov 11

Full Nov 19

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	11:07 a.m.	5:03 a.m.	66°
	11:37 p.m.	5:50 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	a.m.	5:56 a.m.	66°
	12:18 p.m.	6:43 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	2:42 a.m.	9:42 a.m.	
	3:01 p.m.	10:29 p.m.	
Madison	12:25 a.m.	6:21 a.m.	65°
	12:37 p.m.	6:57 p.m.	
New Haven	12:45 a.m.	6:45 a.m.	65°
	12:57 p.m.	7:21 p.m.	
Stamford	12:49 a.m.	6:59 a.m.	66°
	1:01 p.m.	7:35 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 4.31 feet at 4:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W PCloudy	L.I. Sound E PCloudy	B.I. Sound PCloudy
Wind	W, 5-15	SW, 10-15	SW, 10-20
Seas	1-2 ft.	2-3 ft.	3-5 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Thursday	76 at 2:29 p.m.	51 at 6:06 a.m.
Normal for date	62	41
Record for date	82 in 1920	19 in 1972
A year ago	74	59
Range this year	99	1

Heating Degree Days

Season

Normal

Last Season

For July 1 - Oct 21

149

324

275

30-day Temperature History

100

80

60

40

HIGHS

LOWs

9/26

10/3

10/10

10/18

Atmosphere

High

Low

Barometer

30.02 at 9 a.m.

29.87 at 5 p.m.

Dew point

53° at 9 a.m.

49° at 2 p.m.

AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND Bangor 65 43 C Burlington 59 36 C Caribou 59 39 SH Concord 68 42 PC Montpelier 55 34 C Mt. Wash. 43 26 SH Portland 68 47 PC Woods Hole 71 51 PC NATION Albany 60 40 PC Albuquerque 75 50 S Atlantic City 71 49 C	Baltimore 68 50 PC Bismarck 47 28 PC Boise 62 43 C Buffalo 51 39 C Charleston 84 59 PC Cincinnati 57 45 C Cleveland 53 40 C Indianapolis 54 43 C Jacksonville 86 59 PC Las Vegas 82 60 PC Miami Beach 84 77 T Milwaukee 51 35 PC	Nashville 62 46 PC New Orleans 85 67 PC New York 69 51 PC Okla. City 78 63 PC Omaha 59 37 PC Orlando 87 68 PC Pittsburgh 54 41 SH Raleigh 75 52 PC St. Louis 62 43 PC Salt Lake City 72 47 PC San Antonio 85 67 PC San Diego 69 63 C	San Juan 89 77 PC Tucson 89 57 S WORLD Amsterdam 55 41 R Athens 73 59 S Bangkok 93 7 T Barbados 87 77 T Beijing 61 36 S Beirut 82 69 PC Berlin 52 41 SH Bermuda 79 72 R	Budapest 60 42 PC Buenos Aires 81 57 T Cairo 81 63 PC Cancun 85 74 T Dubai 95 77 S Dublin 52 51 C Edinburgh 53 43 PC Helsinki 45 25 SH Hong Kong 68 64 SH Istanbul 66 55 PC Jerusalem 75 59 PC Johannesburg 77 52 T	Kingston 91 77 T Lisbon 73 57 S London 57 45 PC Madrid 66 46 S Mexico City 72 55 PC Milan 64 48 SH Montreal 54 39 SH Moscow 52 41 R Nassau 84 70 T New Delhi 88 66 S Paris 57 41 C Prague 52 43 S Rio de Janeiro 77 66 R Rome 73 55 R Seoul 63 43 S Singapore 93 75 T	Stockholm 46 32 PC Sydney 73 59 PC Tel Aviv 80 62 PC Tokyo 57 52 SH Toronto 50 39 C Vancouver 55 50 SH Warsaw 50 41 SH
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WEDNESDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

GIRLS SOCCER

CCC-North
NEWINGTON 2, ROCKY HILL 1
Goals: N—Michelle Novikova (2); RH—Skylar Sweeney. Saves: M—Brianna Norton, 6; RH—Emma Pacheco-Hager, 13. Rec.: N—7-1-3; RH—4-7-2.

SCC
MERCY 3, SHELTON 0
Goals: M—Kate Donlan (2), Allie Epright. Saves: M—Melina Ford, 5; S—Julia Pulley and Emily Codere, 1. Rec.: M—10-2-2; S—3-9-1.

FIELD HOCKEY

Others
HALL 6, GRANBY 0
Goals: H—Ellie Goldstein (3), Bridget McGann, Emma Keller, Grace Rocheleau. Saves: H—Addison O'Connell, 6; G—Reagan Winn, 9. Rec.: H—11-0-1; G—8-4.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-Inter
E.O. SMITH 3, MALONEY 1 (25-15, 15-25, 25-23, 25-22)
EOS: Natalie Villanueva, 9digs, 5aces, 5kills; M: Savannah Bernabucci, 15 kills, 8digs, 5aces, Grace Massiccotti, 19assists, 8aces, 4kills. Rec.: EOS—13-2; M—13-4.
MIDDLETOWN 3, BLOOMFIELD 0 (25-12, 25-15, 25-16)
M: Tori Minor, 9kills, 4aces, Jordan LaPoint, 12aces, 3kills; B: Condoleeza Coleman, 7digs, 1assist, Tanea Spears, 3digs, 2assists, 1kill. Rec.: M—2-12; B—3-12.

NCCC
SUFFIELD 3, ROCKVILLE 0
S: Erika Danielson, 18kills, Grace Worth, 15digs; R: Maggie Dwire, 8 digs, Athena Diaz, 7assists. Rec.: S—9-3; R—9-6.

FRIDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 3:45 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

FOOTBALL

CCC Tier 2: East Hartford at Enfield, 7p.m.
CCC Tier 3: Northwest Catholic at Plainville, 6:30p.m.
CCC Tier 4: Farmington at Avon, 6:30 p.m.; Bloomfield at Rocky Hill, 7p.m.
CCC Inter: Lewis Mills at E.O. Smith, 6 p.m.; Tolland at Bristol Central, 6p.m.; Middletown at New Britain, 6:30p.m.; Wethersfield at Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m.; Hall at Berlin, 7p.m.; Manchester at Southington, 7p.m.; Newington at Conard, 7p.m.; Simsbury at Windsor, 7p.m.
Pequot Sassacus: Old Saybrook/Westbrook at Cromwell/Portland, 6 p.m.; Coginchaug/Hale-Ray/East Hampton at Morgan, 6:30p.m.; North Branford at Haddam-Killingworth, 6:30p.m.
Pequot Uncas: Rockville at Granby/Canton, 6:30p.m.; Stafford/East Windsor/Somers at Ellington, 7p.m.
CTC: Wilcox Tech/Kaynor Tech at Northwest United, 6p.m.; Abbott Tech/Immaculate at Cheney Tech, 7 p.m.; Bullard-Havens/Kolbe Academy at Quinebaug Valley, 7p.m.
SCC Tier 2: West Haven at Hillhouse, 6:00p.m.; Sheehan at Stonington, 6:30p.m.
ECC Div. II: Griswold/Wheeler at Windham, 6p.m.
ECC Div. III: Killingly at Montville, 6 p.m.; Ledyard at Stonington, 6:30p.m.
ECC Inter: Waterford at New London, 6p.m.
NVL Copper: Woodland at Oxford, 6

p.m.
NVL Iron: Naugatuck at Watertown, 7 p.m.; Wolcott at St. Paul, 7p.m.
NVL Inter: Crosby at Derby, 7p.m.; Torrington at Kennedy, 7p.m.
FCIAC East: Darien at Fairfield Ludlowe, 6p.m.; Norwalk at Bridgeport Central, 7p.m.
FCIAC West: Greenwich at Trumbull, 7 p.m.; St. Joseph at Ridgefield, 7p.m.; Stamford at Staples, 7p.m.
Others: Fitch at Fairfield Prep, 6p.m.; Smithfield (R.I.) at Plainfield, 6p.m.; Hand at East Lyme, 6:30p.m.; Shelton at NFA, 6:30p.m.; Capital Prep/Achievement First at McMahon, 7 p.m.; Cheshire at Newtown, 7p.m.; Lyman Hall at New Fairfield, 7p.m.; Platt at Weston, 7p.m.; Bassick at Bethel, 7p.m.; Brookfield at Branford, 7p.m.; Bunnell at Hamden, 7p.m.; East Haven at Barlow, 7p.m.; Masuk at Notre Dame-West Haven, 7p.m.; Notre Dame-Fairfield at Foran, 7p.m.; New Milford at Amity, 7p.m.; Stratford at North Haven, 7p.m.; Maloney at Xavier, 7:30p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

CCC-North: New Britain at Hartford Public; Wethersfield at Bloomfield, 5 p.m.; Windsor at Newington, 6p.m.
CCC-South: Lewis Mills at Platt; Middletown at Maloney; Plainville at Bristol Eastern, 6p.m.
CCC-East: East Catholic at E.O. Smith; Enfield at Manchester; RHAM at East Hartford, 6p.m.; South Windsor at Tolland, 6p.m.
CCC-West: Simsbury at Conard; Avon at Southington; Farmington at Northwest Catholic; Glastonbury at Hall, 6p.m.
NCCC: Canton at East Granby; Windsor Locks at East Windsor; Coventry at Bolton; Suffield at Ellington; SMSA/Bulkeley at Rockville, 4p.m.
CRAL: Innovation at Aerospace; MLC at Parish Hill
SCC: Fairfield Prep at Xavier, 4p.m.; Career/Hillhouse at Sheehan, 6p.m.; Lyman Hall at Law, 6p.m.
ECC: Ledyard at Bacon Academy, 4 p.m.
Others: Classical at Amistad; Woodland at Portland, 6p.m.; Coginchaug at West Haven, 7p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

CCC-North: Hartford Public at New Britain; Bloomfield at Wethersfield, 6p.m.
CCC-South: Maloney at Middletown; Platt at Lewis Mills, 6p.m.
CCC-East: East Hartford at RHAM; E.O. Smith at East Catholic; Manchester at Enfield; Tolland at South Windsor
CCC-West: Southington at Avon; Northwest Catholic at Farmington, 6 p.m.; Conard at Simsbury, 6p.m.
NCCC: Bolton at Coventry; East Windsor/SMSA/Bulkeley at Windsor Locks; Granby at Stafford, 4p.m.; HMTCA at Somers, 4:15p.m.; Ellington at Suffield, 5:30p.m.
Shoreline: Cromwell at Haddam-Killingworth
CTC: Prince Tech at Norwich Tech/Holy Family; Wilcox Tech at Bullard-Havens; Wolcott Tech at Goodwin Tech
CRAL: Innovation at Civic Leadership/Aerospace; MLC at Parish Hill
SCC: Hand at Amity; Cheshire at Lauralton Hall

FIELD HOCKEY

CCC-Inter: Northwest Catholic at Enfield
Others: Cheshire at Simsbury; Windsor at Morgan, 5p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-East: E.O. Smith at East Hartford, 5p.m.
CCC-Inter: Hartford Public at

Manchester; South Windsor at Avon; Tolland at Rocky Hill, 4p.m.; Farmington at New Britain, 5p.m.; East Catholic at Berlin, 5:30p.m.; Platt at Simsbury, 5:30p.m.; Windsor at Hall, 5:30p.m.; Bulkeley at Northwest Catholic, 6p.m.; Wethersfield at Glastonbury, 6p.m.; Bristol Eastern at Southington, 6p.m.; RHAM at Newington, 6p.m.; Enfield at Maloney, 6p.m.
NCCC: East Windsor at Bolton, 5:30 p.m.; Rockville at HMTCA, 5:30p.m.; Coventry at SMSA, 6:30p.m.
Shoreline: Morgan at East Hampton, 5:30p.m.; Cromwell at North Branford, 5:30p.m.; Haddam-Killingworth at Valley Regional, 6:30p.m.; Coginchaug at Hale-Ray, 7p.m.
CTC: Goodwin Tech at Wilcox Tech, 5:15p.m.; Cheney Tech at Wolcott Tech, 5:30p.m.
CRAL: Aerospace at Innovation, 5 p.m.; Classical at Capital Prep, 5p.m.; Weaver at University, 6:30p.m.
SCC: Branford at Lyman Hall, 5p.m.; Wilbur Cross at Mercy, 5:30p.m.; Hand at Shelton, 6p.m.; Hillhouse at Sheehan, 6:15p.m.; Law at Cheshire, 6:30p.m.
ECC: Ledyard at Bacon Academy, 5:30p.m.
Others: Prince Tech at MLC, 5p.m.; Northwestern at Granby, 5:30p.m.; Grasso Tech at Windham, 5:30p.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING

CCC-Inter: Berlin at Maloney/Platt; Enfield at Manchester; Windsor at Middletown, 4p.m.; Plainville at Rocky Hill, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Haddam-Killingworth at Old Lyme co-op, 3:30p.m.
SCC: Amity at Cheshire, 7p.m.; Hand at Mercy, 7p.m.
NVL: St. Paul at Kennedy, 5p.m.
Others: Suffield at Bulkeley/HMTCA, 4p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULTS

MEN'S SOCCER

TRINITY 1, WESTERN 0
WESLEYAN 1, SPRINGFIELD 0
RIDER 4, FAIRFIELD 3

WOMEN'S SOCCER

REGIS 2, ST. JOSEPH 0
FAIRFIELD 2, ST. PETER'S 0

FRIDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL

Middle Tennessee at UConn, 6p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY

Georgetown at UConn, 1p.m.
Sacred Heart at LIU, 2p.m.
Villanova at Quinnipiac, 3p.m.
St. Francis (Pa.) at Fairfield, 4p.m.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Stony Brook at Hartford, 7p.m.
Sacred Heart at Central, 7p.m.
Yale at Brown, 7p.m.
Wesleyan at Juniata, 7:30p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY

North Dakota at UConn, 7p.m.
Sacred Heart at Maine, 7:30p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

UConn at Merrimack, 2p.m.
St. Anselm at Yale, 6p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 7

Coginchaug co-op looking to keep unbeaten streak alive

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The Coginchaug/Hale-Ray/East Hampton, Hall and Granby/Canton football teams will look to stay undefeated as the teams head into Week 7 of the 2021 season. Coginchaug will be tested by Morgan, Hall by Berlin and Granby/Canton by Rockville. Maloney and Xavier, fresh off a one-point win over Cheshire, should be one of the more compelling games of the week.

Here are some of the top local games to watch this week:

Coginchaug/Hale-Ray/East Hampton at Morgan

The Coginchaug co-op (5-0) will try to keep its unbeaten streak alive when it faces Morgan (4-1) in a Pequot Sassacus game Friday at 6:30 p.m. at Peters Complex Field. Senior lead back Anthony Toth has 538 total rushing yards, 106 carries and four touchdowns for Coginchaug/Hale-Ray/East Hampton, while senior quarterback Braden Lankarge has thrown eight touchdown passes. Coginchaug's defense has had three shutouts this season. Morgan lost its season opener to unbeaten Cromwell/Portland 36-8 but has a four-game win streak, including a 44-42 win last Saturday over the SMSA co-op team.

Hall at Berlin

Hall (5-0) travels to Berlin (3-2) in a Friday night CCC interdivisional game at 7 p.m. at Sage Park. Hall, ranked fifth in this week's state coaches' poll, had a close call last Friday, blocking a field goal with 45



Granby/Canton's Michael Brosnan (8) takes down Ellington quarterback Zac Killoran during a game on Oct. 8 in Ellington. Granby/Canton is undefeated and hosts Rockville tonight.

JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

seconds to go to beat Platt, 39-38. Platt led at halftime but Hall rallied in the second half and went ahead with a little over five minutes left in the game on a nine-yard run by Salahdin Bakri and a two-point conversion pass from quarterback Elijah Salomons to Landon Traverse. Berlin lost 28-13 to Maloney last week.

Maloney at Xavier

Maloney (4-1) heads to Xavier (3-2) Friday night for a non-conference game at 7:30 p.m. Xavier won a come-from-behind game against Cheshire last Friday, 21-20. D.J. Wright scored what proved to be the game-winner on a 10-yard run in the fourth quarter, and the Falcons hung on to win. The win broke a two-game losing streak for Xavier, which had lost back-to-back to No. 4-ranked Ridgefield (28-7) and No. 1 St. Joseph (42-7).

Rockville at Granby/Canton

Rockville (3-1) heads to Granby (4-0) for a 6:30 p.m.

Pequot Uncas game Friday night. Granby/Canton has had two close calls, with a 20-19 win over Stafford/East Windsor/Somers in the second week of the season and a 14-13 win over Ellington on Oct. 8 before having a bye week last week. Rockville, which lost its opener to SMSA before winning three straight, is heading into a difficult stretch of its schedule with Granby/Canton this week and Coginchaug/Hale-Ray/East Hampton next week.

Simsbury at Windsor

Simsbury (3-2) will go up against Windsor (4-1) Friday in a CCC interdivisional game at 7 p.m. Windsor's only loss came to top-ranked St. Joseph, 45-22, on Sept. 24. Junior quarterback Elijah Cromartie has nine touchdown passes and has run for six for the Warriors and is third in the state in passing yardage (1,160). After back-to-back losses to Hall and Maloney, Simsbury is on a two-game win streak after beating Glastonbury and Enfield.

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